



## SIGN AND GRAPHIC CARE AND MAINTENANCE

Thank you for your purchase from Checkers Custom Signs. Below are some guidelines that we suggest you follow when caring for your signs and/or graphics. With proper care and maintenance, your signs and/or graphics will last a long time. Should you have any questions about the proper use of this information, please contact us.

### General Sign And Graphic Care And Maintenance Instructions

Use a cleaner designed for high-quality painted surfaces. The cleaner must be wet, non-abrasive, without strong solvents, and have a pH value between 3 and 11 (neither strongly acidic nor strongly alkaline.)

#### **HAND WASHING EXTERIOR SIGNS AND GRAPHICS IS RECOMMENDED**

1. Flush the sign/graphic with clean water to remove loose dirt particles. A trigger-type hose nozzle is convenient for this purpose.
2. Use a mild liquid detergent and water solution and wash the sign/graphic with a soft brush, rag or sponge.
  - Wash thoroughly from the top down.
  - Avoid abrading the sign/graphic by unnecessary scrubbing.
  - After applying the cleaning solution, keep a steady stream of water flowing on the sign/graphic to wash away dirt particles.
3. Rinse the entire sign/graphic thoroughly with clean water.

Allow to dry naturally.

#### **Vehicle Graphics and Automatic Brush Washing**

Automatic brush washing may be used, but keep these two points in mind:

- Brushes can catch a sharp or loose edge of the graphic and cause further damage to the graphic.
- Brushes can dull the finish of the graphic.

#### **Power Washing Exterior Signs/Graphics**

Power washing, or pressure washing, may be used. However, aggressive washing can damage the sign/graphic. Two common types of damage are:

- excessive pressure during power washing can damage the sign/graphic by forcing water underneath the applied graphics.

Water lessens the adhesion of the graphic to the substrate allowing the graphic to lift or curl. These problems are magnified by wind. This is a critical problem for perforated window graphic film.

To avoid edge lifting or other damage to the graphics, follow these important steps:

- Use a spray nozzle with a 40° wide spray pattern.
- Be sure the spray nozzle includes a nozzle protector (tip guard).
- Use a pressure of 2000 psi or less.
- If the system is heated, limit the water temperature to 180°F or less.
- Hold nozzle at least 12 inches (300 mm) away from and perpendicular (90° +/- 10) to the graphic.
- Do not direct the water stream at a sharp angle to the edge of the graphic.

These instructions are available for download from our website [www.CheckersCustom.com/resources.html](http://www.CheckersCustom.com/resources.html)

**THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IS AN EXCERPT FROM 3M INSTRUCTION BULLETIN 6.5 WITH REGARDS TO MAINTENANCE OF FILMS AND SHEETINGS. IT IS PROVIDED "AS IS". CHECKERS CUSTOM SIGNS DOES NOT WARRANT THE INFORMATION, INCLUDING WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. BUYER IS SOLELY RESPONSIBLE FOR PROPER USE AND MAINTENANCE OF THIS PRODUCT. CHECKERS CUSTOM SIGNS SHALL NOT BE LIABLE FOR ANY LOSS OR DAMAGES, WHETHER DIRECT, INDIRECT, SPECIAL, INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL, IN ANY WAY RELATED TO THE TECHNIQUES OR INFORMATION DESCRIBED HEREIN. FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON 3M'S SUGGESTED CARE AND HANDLING, PLEASE VISIT [WWW.SCOTCHPRINT.COM](http://WWW.SCOTCHPRINT.COM)**