

T.I.P # 1

Surface Preparation

1. It is always important to clean surfaces just prior to any installation.
2. "Which preparation for which surface?" While many will work, a good rule of thumb for the last cleaning is:

SIGN MATERIAL	CLEANER
Painted Metal and Wood	Isopropyl Alcohol (IPA)
Glass	IPA or Vinegar/Water Mix
Acrylic and Polycarbonate	Non-siliconized Acrylic Cleaner or anti-static rag to remove static charge and last minute dust
Banners and Awnings	IPA or Vinegar/Water Mix
For Expanded PVC sheet	Vinegar followed by a quick wipe with Toluene

Cautionary Note: While it may seem logical that a strong solvent will be the best cleaner for surfaces that are hard to stick film to - in the case of many plastics and paints this is wrong and can lead to premature sign failing due to embrittlement, cracking or loss of gloss. Use the mildest solvents possible - only clean until the surface dirt is gone.

