



Gerber Floor Graphics From Gerber

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DESCRIPTION

Floor Graphics from Gerber is a product kit that includes Gerber Overlamine Film 3645 and an Edge Ready™ version of Controltac™ Plus film series 162. The materials have been specially designed for use as a component system with the GERBER EDGE® and GerberColor™ Foils.

The Edge Ready Controltac Plus film series 162 is a white, durable, 4.5 mil vinyl film. Its unique, repositionable adhesive system allows for removal of Floor Graphics for up to one year after application without using heat or chemicals. Little or no adhesive residue will be left behind. In addition, the gray-pigmented adhesive provides maximum opacity and hiding power.

The Gerber Overlamine Film 3645 is a scuff-resistant, durable, 8.5 mil, transparent overlamine designed for use with Controltac Plus Film Series 162 marking film to create Floor Graphics. These graphics will have outstanding resistance to wear from high foot traffic and are approved by Underwriters Laboratories Inc.® for slip resistance.

Floor Graphics are created in the following steps:

(Appropriate procedures are explained in this document)

- ◆ Design graphic.
- ◆ Output to the EDGE®.
- ◆ Print on Controltac Plus Film Series 162 with GerberColor Foils.
- ◆ Remove printed graphic from the EDGE.

- ◆ Apply Gerber Overlamine Film 3645 to the printed graphic using hand squeegee techniques or a cold-roll laminator (preferred method).
- ◆ Insert the composite Floor Graphics (base film and overlamine) into a plotter.
- ◆ Cut the composite Floor Graphics.
- ◆ Prepare the application surface.
- ◆ Apply the graphic.

INTENDED APPLICATIONS

Floor Graphics from Gerber have been designed to produce attractive markings on floors, countertops, and other flat surfaces. Applications include point-of-purchase displays, directional markings, and safety graphics.

Floor Graphics are ideally suited for application to the following sealed, smooth floor and countertop surfaces: waxed vinyl, sealed concrete, marble, terrazzo, ceramic, and finished wood. The user should determine the suitability of all substrates prior to actual application. All substrates must be prepared in accordance with the procedures outlined in the "SURFACE PREPARATION" section of this document. **Floor Graphics are intended for interior use only.**

PRINTING

If your software material selection palette does not have Floor Graphics From Gerber, use Controltac 180 normal print settings. GerberColor Finishing (GCF), GerberColor Spot (GCS) Series, GerberColor Process (GCP) SUPER CMYK™ Series, GerberColor Medal (GCM) Series and GerberColor Transparent (GCT) Series Foils can be used to print onto Floor Graphics.

Do not cut your graphic after printing onto the Controltac Plus film series 162. **You will be laminating the Gerber Overlamine Film 3645 to the printed Controltac Plus film series 162 and cutting both materials at once as a composite.**

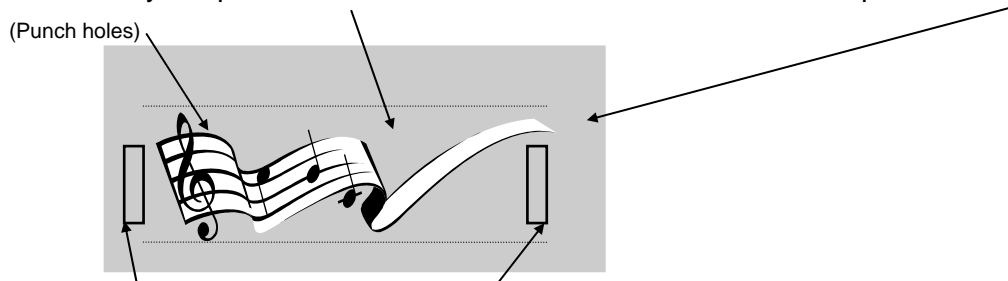
LAMINATION TECHNIQUES

The Gerber Overlamine Film 3645 can be laminated to the Controltac Plus film series 162 by hand squeegee (maximum recommended length of a graphic laminated by hand squeegee is 6 feet) or by using a cold-roll laminator (graphic can be any length as appropriate to specific laminator). If you cut your graphic off of the roll before lamination, be certain it is long enough to fit back into your plotter for cutting.

Hand Squeegee Techniques- Center Hinge Application

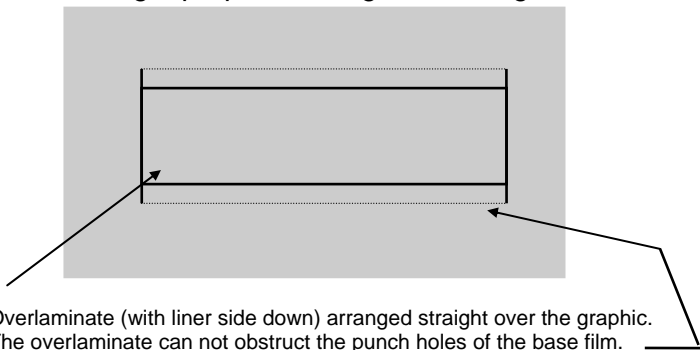
Graphics laminated with hand-squeegee techniques should be no longer than 6 feet. Multiple-panel graphics should be printed, hand-squeegee laminated and cut separately in 6-foot sections.

1. Lay the printed Controltac Plus film series 162 face side up on a smooth work surface.

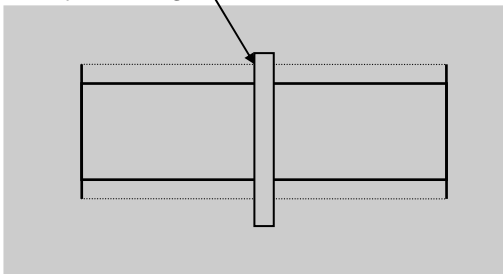


You will need to secure the graphic to the work surface using masking tape along the top and bottom of the graphic.

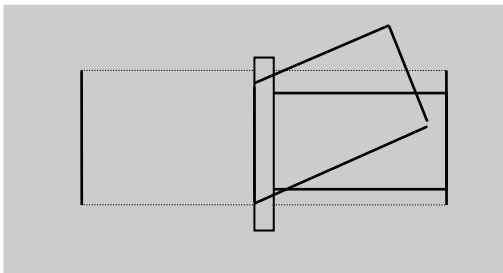
2. Place the Gerber Overlaminates Film 3645 liner side down on top of the printed Controltac Plus film series 162 graphic. The Overlaminates is 13" wide and will completely cover the graphic without obstructing the punch holes of the Controltac. This is important because the Controltac/overlaminates composite will be placed back into your plotter for cutting. If the punch holes are obstructed by the overlaminates, you will not get proper tracking and cutting results.



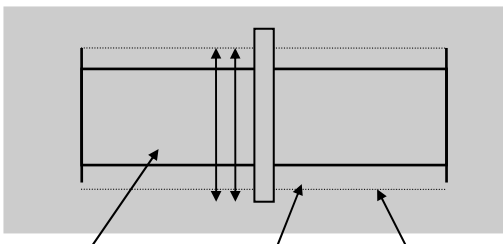
3. Place a piece of masking tape vertically across the center of the overlaminates. This will be your hinge.



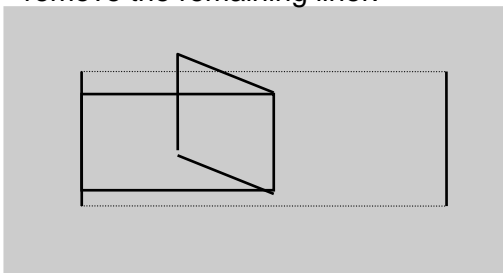
4. Flip one half of the overlaminates back over the center hinge. Separate the liner from the overlaminates as you do so.



5. Cut the liner away. Flip the overlaminates back and gradually squeegee it into place. (Hold it away from the base film and allow it to touch as you squeegee.) Use firm, overlapping strokes and squeegee from the hinge out.



- Remove the masking tape hinge. Flip the other half of the overlaminated back and remove the remaining liner.



- Repeat step five with this half of the overlaminated. Remove the masking tape that has been holding the graphic in place on your work surface.

You have now created the composite Controltac/Overlaminated Floor Graphic. Examine the laminated graphic; if it appears hazy, squeegee again with more force until the haze dissipates. Before cutting a Floor Graphic that has been laminated with hand-squeegee techniques, wait at least 12 hours to allow for an optimal bond.

Cold-Roll Lamination Techniques

Follow the instructions provided with your laminating equipment. When using any machinery, always follow the manufacturers' instructions for safe operation.

It will be necessary to ensure that the graphic lines up properly with the overlaminated. The punch holes of the Controltac Plus cannot be obstructed by the overlaminated.

Examine the graphic once it has been laminated. If the surface appears hazy, you may need to run it through the laminator again. Once it has been laminated to your satisfaction, the composite graphic is ready to be placed in a plotter and cut.

CUTTING

The following table outlines the types of plotters and blades that can be used to cut a composite Gerber Floor Graphic.

Type of plotter	Type of blade	Degree of Blade
Gerber HS 15™	Tangential	45°
Gerber HS15 <i>plus</i> ™	Tangential	45°
Gerber GS15 <i>plus</i> ™	Tangential	45°
Gerber enVision™ 375	Swivel	60°

Ensure that the punch holes of the Controltac Plus are not obstructed by the overlaminated.

When using the HS 15, HS15plus, or GS15plus slow the plotter speed to 50%. When using an enVision 375, manually set the speed to 12 ips, the acceleration to 1G, the force to 12 oz, and

the offset to .020. It is recommended that the user perform a test cut to determine the ideal tool force settings for all plotters. Optimal cutting results will be achieved with a new blade.

The cut should penetrate through both the Gerber Overlamine 3645 and Controltac Plus film series 162 without cutting through the paper liner.

If the cut around a Floor Graphic has sharp corners, use the Fillet Corner feature of GRAPHIX ADVANTAGE software to create a radius on the outside corners of at least 1/8" (3.175 mm).

SURFACE PREPARATION

All floor surfaces, including those that are sealed and/or waxed, painted, etc. must be cleaned prior to the application of Floor Graphics.

1. Spray the floor area where the graphics are to be applied with a solution of 20 drops of detergent (unscented Joy dish detergent will work well) per pint (400 ml) of water. Avoid using soaps or detergents with enzymes.
2. Clean an application area that is 6 to 8 inches (152 to 203 mm) larger than the graphic.
3. Wipe the floor clean and dry with a lint-free paper towel (such as Perfect-it™ Wipe, Kaydry Excel 6009 or equivalent) removing all soil and grit.
4. Remove any grease or oil that may be present by wiping the floor with a clean, lint-free paper towel that has been moistened with rubbing alcohol. Completely wipe the surface dry with a lint-free paper towel before the alcohol evaporates to avoid leaving a residue.

APPLICATION SURFACES

Gerber Floor Graphics can be applied to the following surfaces:

- ◆ Waxed vinyl
- ◆ Sealed concrete
- ◆ Marble
- ◆ Ceramic tile
- ◆ Sealed wood
- ◆ Terrazzo

LOCATION OF GRAPHICS

The surface must be secure and in good condition. The finish (i.e., concrete sealer, wood sealer, paint, wax, etc.) must have good adhesion properties. Finishes that do not adhere well to the specific surface may release resulting in premature lifting of the graphic.

The surface must be properly cleaned. Silicone coatings must be removed unless they are in grout lines. There should be no loose or uneven tile.

Doormats should be used if a Floor Graphic is located a short distance from an entryway. This will help to prevent the graphics from becoming slippery because of rain or snow exposure. Clean up water, spills or other contaminants near a Floor Graphic immediately.

Floor Graphics may be damaged by pallets of heavy equipment such as fork lifts. Dragging heavy items across the top of a Floor Graphics graphic may cause damage.

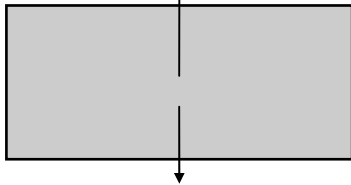
Minor edge chipping of a Floor Graphic is unavoidable. If possible, apply the graphic out of the main stream flow of heavy equipment traffic.

APPLICATION TECHNIQUES

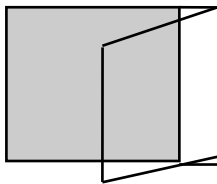
The surface temperature prior to application of the Floor Graphics must be between 50° and 100°F (4° to 38°C).

Floor Graphics From Gerber can be applied in panels. **Panels should be butted. Overlapping panels are not recommended or warranted.** Do not use wet application methods with Floor Graphics.

1. Remove the liner from the back of the Floor Graphic. The adhesive is repositionable and the graphic will not require a premask.
2. Position the graphic on the cleaned floor. Avoid aligning the graphic edges on grout or tile lines. Do not smooth the graphic with your hands because this will trap air.
3. Adhere the graphic to the floor with a plastic squeegee. Make one stroke across the center of the graphic using firm pressure.



Lift one end of the graphic and continue to squeegee outward as you gradually allow the graphic to fall into place.



Lift the opposite end and repeat the squeegee procedure.

4. It is very important that you re-squeegee the edges of your graphic using very firm pressure after initial application.

The graphic should be waxed as soon as possible after application to protect it from dirt. After application (and waxing if appropriate) the graphic and surrounding floor area must be kept clean and dry (do not scrub or polish) for at least 4 hours.

MAINTENANCE OF APPLIED GRAPHICS

To prevent the risk of tripping, the entire graphic must be removed if an edge is lifting. Use the Fillet Corners feature of GRAPHIX ADVANTAGE software to assign a radius to any outside points of your graphic. This will help to reduce the occurrence of any edge lifting.

Maintain Floor Graphics using routine procedures and equipment.

1. Clean graphic prior to waxing.
2. Select a floor finish (wax) that meets or exceeds the 0.5 Static Coefficient of Friction value using the ASTM D 2047 test procedure. Contact the supplier or manufacturer of the specific wax to determine if they meet this standard.
3. Follow the manufacturer's recommendations for application of the floor finish (wax).
4. Buffing equipment should only be used over Floor Graphics that are waxed regularly. If high-speed propane buffers are used, it is recommended that 4 to 6 coats of wax be applied to the floor Graphics before buffing. The multiple wax coatings prevent the graphic from experiencing premature edge wear during buffing.

REMOVING FLOOR GRAPHICS

Gerber Floor Graphics can be removed for up to six months after application without using heat or chemicals and without leaving an adhesive residue.

Remove the graphic by lifting one edge and pulling it off at a sharp angle.

The floor wax under the graphic may also be removed and the floor may need to be re-waxed.

STORAGE OF GRAPHICS

Unprinted and printed Controltac Plus film series 162 can be stored for one year. The Gerber Overlaminated Film 3645 can also be stored for one year.

Composite Floor Graphics can be stored in rolls with the graphic side out. The diameter of the rolls should be at least 6" (15cm). Delamination of graphics may occur if the roll is any smaller. Floor Graphics can also be stored in flat sheets.

Storage of Floor Graphics, unprinted Controltac Plus film series 162, and Gerber Overlaminated 3645 should be in a clean area free from excessive moisture and sunlight. Maintain temperatures of 100°F (38°C) or less.

EFFECTIVE PERFORMANCE LIFE

When Film 3645 is applied to Controltac *Plus* film series 162 in accordance with the procedures outlined in this document, Gerber Floor Graphics will have an effective **interior** performance life of one year.

This performance life statement is based upon foot traffic experience in the field. Graphics may be damaged by forklifts, pallets, or heavy equipment. This type of damage is not covered by the product warranty. Performance depends upon preparation of the surface before application, the exposure conditions, maintenance of the graphics, and the condition of the surface. The entire graphic must be removed if any edge lifting occurs.

WARRANTY AND LIMITED REMEDY

This warranty is made in lieu of any and all other express or implied warranties, including any implied warranty of merchantability. Gerber warrants that Floor Graphics From Gerber that have been constructed using only Gerber Overlaminated Film 3645, Controltac Plus film series 162, GerberColor Foils, and the GERBER EDGE and have been produced and installed in accordance with Gerber's written instructions, will for a period of 1 year after application have the following expected performance: maintain original brightness, color, and image quality, excepting ordinary and expected wear and tear, and adhere to Gerber recommended floor surfaces and be removable without damage to the surface. Gerber will replace or refund the price of such quantity of Floor Graphics found not to meet this warranty.

This warranty is exclusive. In no case shall Gerber be liable for any other direct or indirect damages or loss, including without limitation any incidental, special, or consequential damages, or any labor charges incident to the removal or replacement of Floor Graphics Graphics.

RELATED LITERATURE

GerberColor Spot (GCS) Series, GerberColor Process (GCP) SUPER CMYK Series, GerberColor Medal (GCM) Series, GerberColor Transparent (GCT) Series, Edge Ready & Image Ready™ Product Bulletins.

For help with questions concerning Gerber products, please call your distributor or Gerber Customer Service at 1-800-222-7446 or (860)643-1515.

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