

Banner Care & Installation Instructions

The following instructions will help ensure that you clean, store and install your banner properly. Failure to follow these instructions may result in damage or a shorter life-span.

Cleaning

Banner vinyl is made of a woven mesh scrim that has been laminated or coated with vinyl. The vinyl has been treated with UV and mildew resistant coatings that help ensure a longer life. The graphics on the banner have been printed with latex based inks. All banners should be cleaned with simple soap and water, a soft cloth or sponge. Never use a solvent based cleaner. Cleaners with a solvent base may damage the vinyl and/or remove the ink. If necessary, a soft brush may be used, but be careful to scrub gently.

Storage

Make sure the banner is completely dry before storing.

Loosely roll with the print side facing in and, if possible, onto a rigid core or tube of some kind to ensure that it does not kink, crease or smash.

Do not fold or crease.

Do not allow the banner to have ink to ink contact with itself or any other type of print or paint.

Store in a cool, dry location.

Installation

Improper installation may ruin your banner. If installed loose, it can quickly be destroyed in even mildly windy conditions. Banners that are installed properly can usually be left up year-round, although special consideration should be taken in extremely windy conditions. Installation methods vary, but here are three that we recommend:

1. *Against a hard, flat surface.* Use all the grommets, ensuring that the banner is held securely in place. Use screws and washers, if possible, to hold the banner against the flat, rigid surface.
2. *Between two rigid structures such as poles or trees.* We suggest weaving a rope in and out of the grommets along the top and bottom so that the rope is not just tied to the corner grommets but is a continuous piece. Tying rope to the corner grommets alone often results in the grommets being ripped out.
3. *Hanging.* Common electrical ties tied through the grommets are handy if there is a place available to attach them. These can easily be snipped when no longer needed.

Regardless of how a banner is installed, always be sure to support it in windy conditions. Remember, you are essentially putting up a "sail". We recommend you take it down in extreme winds to avoid damaging the banner or the mounting location.

Wind Holes

We do not recommend wind holes or slits. In theory, these wind slits allow air to pass through the banner, reducing the stress in windy conditions. In reality, wind tunnel studies have shown that these holes or slits do little in reducing wind stress. In tests, it was shown to actually have a negative effect on the longevity of a banner. Cutting the vinyl compromises the substrate and possible tear-points are created where the holes start and stop. In most cases a properly reinforced and installed banner without wind slits will last just as long or longer than a banner with wind slits.