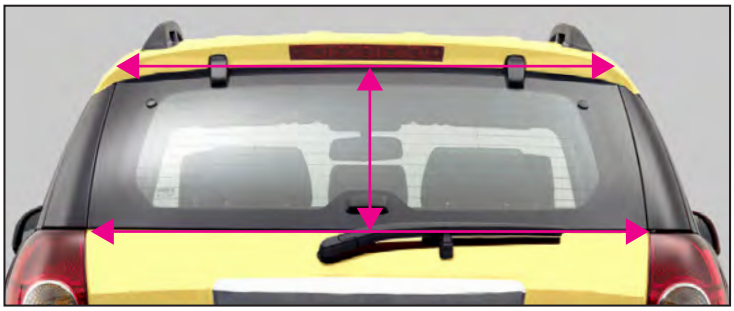
Do It Yourself

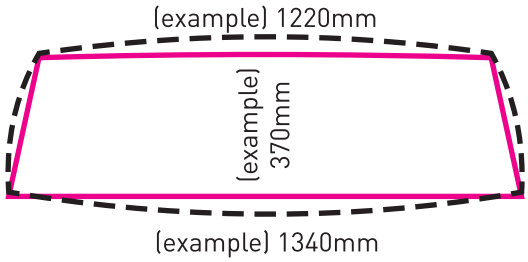
1-WAY VISION

For best results, use professional vector programs like Illustrator, Coreldraw, or similar. Home programs like MS Word/Publisher don't have the right tools or colour palette. MS Excel is for spreadsheets. MS Powerpoint is for screen slideshows. PhotoShop is for editing bitmap images.

MEASURE BACK WINDOW

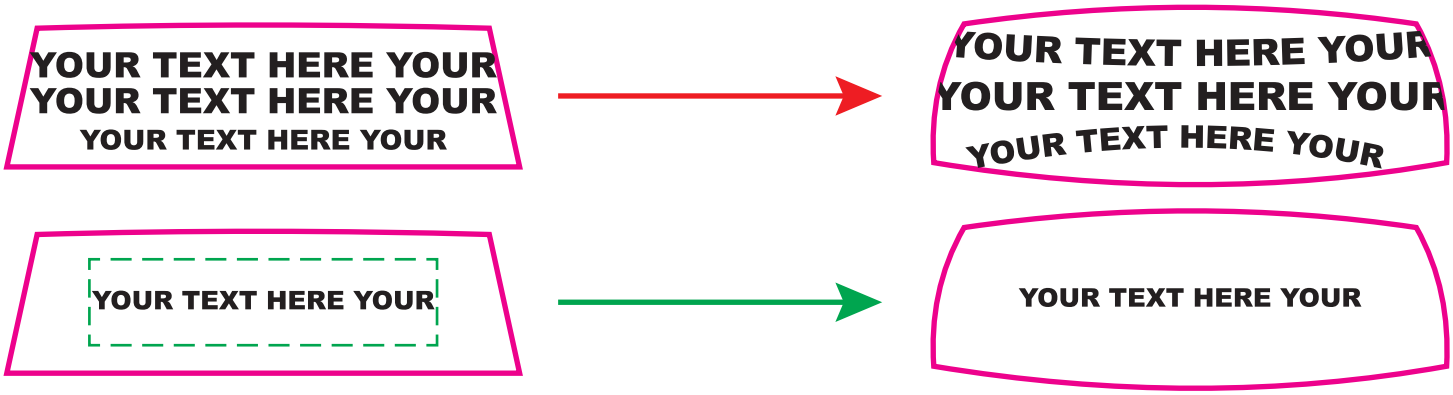
Measure the TOP and BOTTOM width, then the HEIGHT in the middle. This gives you a rough size and shape. It doesn't account for all curves, but that's OK.





MEASURE "SAFE AREA"

Keep text / main visuals in the **centre area**, the **flatest** part of the window, and away from the edges. Otherwise text will **distort around curves**, and everything will be crowded and may be cut off.



If your window is very curved/angled, you may need professional assistance.

BACKGROUND

Some of your background image or colour will be cut away on installation, so choose something that doesn't have to match up exactly with the window. **Make sure** the background goes **50mm beyond** your window measurement all around ("*bleed").

✱ **BLEED: any object that goes right to the edge of the document. The object must actually go BEYOND the finished size ("bleed over" the edge).**

ART

① Use the **allBIZ ONLINE EDITOR**

Put your text and image into the online Designer. Use the ruler to keep within your size and add bleed.

② Use **ILLUSTRATOR** (or other vector software)

1 - PAGE SIZE: 1500 x 600mm (even if your window is much smaller). Allow for your window size, then manually add 50mm bleed all around that. (There are tech reasons why this bleed method is best.)

2 - SAVE AS: PDF (best if /X-1A).

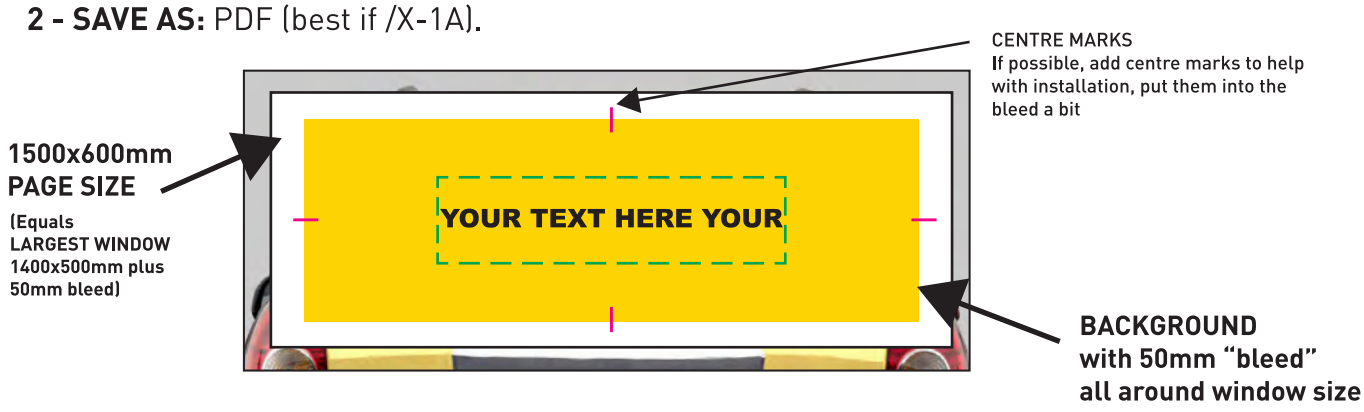


IMAGE AS BACKGROUND

Use an image already close in size to your window, that is at least 150dpi/ppi.

Enlarging an image makes it blurry and pixellated:"twice as big, half as sharp." So taking an A4 at 300dpi and enlarging it to cover the window (almost 5 times the size to cover the width) will reduce the resolution to roughly 65dpi, making a very blurry image. An A4 at 600dpi would be closer (yields 130dpi when enlarged).

It can be hard to find images that work technically. Most images from the web are both copyrighted, and much too low resolution (72 and 96dpi). Below is a list of stock photo sources. Some are free, and some have a one time fee. This is a small list, and will probably change often.

pexels.com
depositphotos.com
bigstockphoto.com
123rf.com

IMPORTANT ART NOTES

One-way vision material is only "half there." 50% of the material is knocked out as holes. So be careful with light colours/low contrast and small text. You will need more contrast and bigger text.

The smallest readable text is about 15mm high (from about a metre away) Smaller than that and the holes make the text gibberish. Much larger text is better, not only for printability, but for readability and grabbing attention.

MAKE SURE YOUR FILES ARE PRINT READY!

- ☐ **PDF** (PDF/X-1a is better)
- ☐ **FONTS** embedded (or converted to Curves/Paths/Outlines)
- ☐ **IMAGES** 150dpi/ppi or higher
- ☐ **CMYK** colour only (do not use RGB or Spot or mix them)
- ☐ **FLATTEN** transparencies/layers (or you will get odd stripes/blocks)
- ☐ **BLEED** 50mm all around

INSTALLATION

Here are some installation tips. If installation is not for you, just ring allBIZ and we can handle the job for a small fee.

CLEAN THE GLASS

The window must be clean and solvent-free. Solvents can stay on the glass and attack the adhesive.

Some glass cleaners are ammonia based (a solvent), so read the label carefully. Methylated spirits often contain acetone or methyl ethyl keytone, powerful solvents. A better alcohol cleanser is Isopropyl or "rubbing" alcohol. It is solvent free and can be diluted with water to about 85%.

Make sure the glass is dry and lint-free. One way vision should be installed dry so that the holes do not trap water and inhibit adhesion.

ROUGH TRIM

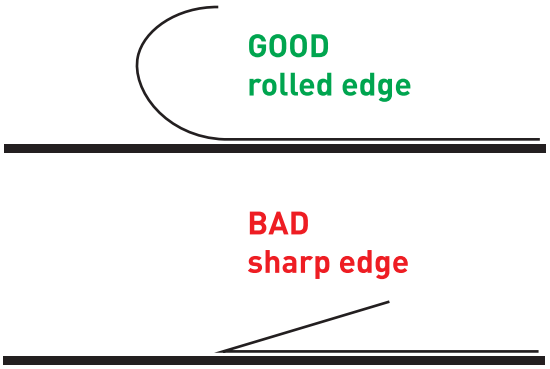
If your design is much smaller than the printout, you can do a rough trimoff to the bleed or just above.

1 POSITION

Use the centre guide marks to position the graphic in the centre of the window. Keep it in place with masking tape across the up/down centre. The tape is now a "middle hinge."

2 PEEL HALF BACK

At the LEFT, peel the 1-way material off the backing paper towards the centre, and stop at the masking tape hinge. Make **SURE** you have a rolled edge as you peel, do not crease or fold.

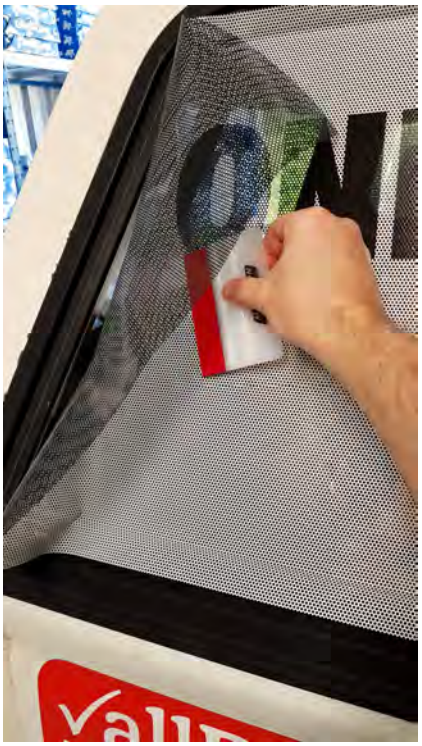


3 CUT OFF BACKING PAPER

Cut off the left half of the backing paper. An enclosed/slit or safety cutter works best because the glass is protected by the scooping blade, and it steers straight.

4 APPLY LEFT HALF

ROLL the left half onto the raw glass, again using a loose roll as the material joins the glass (do not crease). Use a squeegee to press firm. If you make a wrinkle, peel back and try again. Because of the holes, you will not trap air.



5 REMOVE TAPE HINGE

6 ROLL RIGHT HALF TO THE LEFT

7 PEEL BACKING PAPER AWAY

PEEL the backing paper away from the centre out.

8 APPLY RIGHT HALF

Hold tension and use a squeegee to apply the right half to the glass. Roll the backing paper to keep control of the material.

9 TRIM EDGES

Use a sharp blade and trim off the excess. Put the blade against the rubber seal and use it as a guide. Some installers use a straightedge and stay a few millimetres away from the seals.