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Dash Decals**

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Instructions for '66-'67 Dodge Charger Electroluminescent Overlays

We want to *thank you* for your purchase of our decal kit from PremiumDashDecals.com! The decals which you have are the product of a significant amount of research, design and development on our behalf. The decals found in this refacing kit have been faithfully reproduced by PremiumDashDecals.com from original instruments typically found in survivor cars. Since all artwork is based on real, existing gauges, instruments and controls we strive to ensure that these items are reproduced using correct line widths, correct typefaces (fonts), text height/positioning and very importantly, correct colors, opacity and finish.

These decals are produced using silk-screening techniques on pressure sensitive clear 3M brand film that exactly duplicates the original faces. All decals have been machine cut as this not only increases the accuracy of the decal but gives much greater tear resistance and easier application than a hand cut decal. Additionally, a lot of effort went into producing decals with the proper opaque black ink and correct gloss level so that when you have completed your refacing work, your dash cluster will look as it did when the car was new.

Understanding the Material

These overlays are printed on a clear plastic material with a pressure sensitive adhesive. They have been precut by a machine to duplicate the originals exactly and therefore no extra trimming or shaping is required. These overlays require a moderate skill level to apply and are recommended for professional gauge restorers but are available to do-it-yourselfers who wish to take the time and care to restore their own parts.

Please note that clear decal film is repositionable to some degree. It is best to take time and care to ensure the decal face alignment is correct before placing it down. Repeated peeling up and repositioning overlay will affect the appearance of the decal since it may leave slight marks in the optically clear adhesive. For best results take the time to position the overlay right the first time and then smooth it out to look just like new.

Installing the Decal Overlays

We do not recommend applying your new 66-67 Instrument Face Decals directly over top of your old and faded instrument faces. Instead you must first remove the old decals, clean the gauge face and apply your new PremiumDashDecals.com gauge faces.

To remove the old instrument faces, you must do so very carefully. Excessive force or twisting may crack the electroluminescent (EL) base material. It looks and feels somewhat like a ceramic coating and is quite durable, but excessive force can cause it to crack rendering the EL backlight for that particular instrument useless. The original Dodge instrument faces are just a “sticker” like you have in your replacement kit. Depending on the age and weathering of the dash sometimes these old faces will simply peel right off of the gauges. Please do so carefully. If not you can apply a small amount of heat from a hair dryer or professional heat gun to soften up the adhesive to help in releasing the old decal film from the gauge face. Please be very careful not to harm the gauge needles/pointers while doing this. Do not use excessive heat.

ON THE SPEEDOMETER AND TACHOMETER, THE BLACK PLASTIC “FACIAS” ON THE BOTTOM OF EACH GAUGE WILL LIKELY HAVE TO BE REMOVED WHERE THE OVERLAY “TUCKS UNDER” THE FASCIA. (Around Odometer On Speedometer, and the “RPM X100” on Tachometer) Very carefully grind around the plastic rivits, to remove the fascias. Leave enough plastic to remelt the rivits on when re-installing fascias.

Once the face has been removed clean the EL surface off with a bit of rubbing alcohol on a lint free cloth. Repeat this for each gauge. If necessary take a picture of your cluster before beginning work so that you can refer back to it later. It’s also nice to have a before and after picture for your car’s scrapbook too! Before applying the new decals wipe the gauge faces down with an automotive tack rag to remove any dust or impurities left from the cleaning wipe. Peel off the backing from your new PremiumDashDecals.com decal. You may want to leave a small section of the backing on towards one of the edges so that you have a handhold with which to hold the decal face without your fingerprints getting stuck in the adhesive. Holding the decal by the edge position it exactly and press down in one SMALL spot to lock it in place. If you are happy with the placement remove the little remaining piece of decal backing that you were using as a handle and then proceed to press the decal into place working from the center out to the edges. If the surface is clean and free from defects the decal will bond tightly to the EL backing and any air bubbles will easily smooth away out to the outside and disappear.

Repeat the above for each of the faces. Start with the small ones (i.e. fuel gauge) first before you move up to the large speedo and tach faces which are a bit more difficult simply due to their size.

A Few Final Words

If you notice any of the high voltage electrical contacts for your EL system are loose or have come off, REAR DEFROST GRID REPAIR material from Loctite Inc works well to reattach them. It dries fast and is totally conductive.

A word of caution, if you begin your decaling project and find that it is too difficult or you are not comfortable with the process please consult a professional before going any further. We are happy to supply you with names of professional shops that apply our product in both the US and Canada and you can choose to have one of them finish your dash cluster upgrade instead.

Also, if you are having trouble with the high voltage EL power supply mounted on the underside of your dash we can repair that for you here at PremiumDashDecals.com. We have all of the OEM parts (except the transformer) to repair your power unit and get it back working to original specifications. All power supplies are run for 12 hours before being shipped back to you. Turn around time is typically only 48 hrs plus shipping transit time. Please contact us for pricing of our flat rate repair service.

Once again, thank you for your purchase. We hope that you will get many years of enjoyment from our product and that it will help make your car's dash look like it is new again. If you have any further questions please feel free to contact our technical support who will do their best to answer your questions and provide tips and suggestions to make your dash restoration successful.

Regards,

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