How to apply vinyl to car or truck using the wet method.

These instructions explain how to apply vinyl to an automobile using the wet method. This method allows you to mess up and reapply, and is the best method for beginners.

Things You'll Need:
- Vinyl decal
- water bottle with spray nozzle
- liquid soap
- squeegee (or credit card)

1. Your first step is to find the area on the car that you are planning to put the decal. You want to remove all dirt, road grime, and wax from this area so the vinyl has a good surface to cling to. (I even like to wipe the surface with rubbing alcohol after it's clean so you get a good stick but that's optional)
2. Fill a spray bottle with tap water and one drop of soap. This will be used to let you move the decal around after it has been placed on the car.
3. Remove the protective backing from the vinyl. As you are removing the vinyl, you want to spray the sticky side with the soapy water solution.
4. Spray the car thoroughly with the soapy water where the vinyl will be applied, then stick the vinyl onto the vehicle.
5. The vinyl should now be on the vehicle. The next step is to spray the outside of the vinyl (transfer material – Looks like masking tape) with water. This will be the buffer between the vinyl decal and the squeegee. Now you want to begin to take all of the air bubbles and wrinkles out by squeegeeing from the middle outward.
6. If the surface is flat, then skip to step 7. If the surface is round, you will have to use a heat gun or hair dryer and slowly stretch and work the vinyl around the curves.
7. Slowly peel the transfer material (looks like masking tape) from the face of the vinyl. If the vinyl should detach from the surface, squeegee that part down again.
8. Try to let the vinyl dry on the car for 24 hours before taking the car for a drive. This is usually not necessary, but is a good precaution to try and let the vinyl fully adhere to the vehicle.
9. Wax the area around the vinyl that the original wax was removed from. DO NOT WAX THE VINYL. Most vinyls already have a protective coating that will be damaged if waxed.
10. You are finished. Enjoy your new vinyl.

How to apply vinyl decals using dry method

1. Clean the area that the vinyl will be applied. All dirt and wax must be removed to give the vinyl proper surface to adhere to. (wiping area with rubbing alcohol will give you really good stick)
2. Remove protective backing from vinyl.
3. Begin to apply vinyl to the vehicle. Make sure that you are ready because once the vinyl is down, it will be very hard to adjust. If you don't feel comfortable with this method, then see the instructions on how to apply vinyl using the wet method. It allows for the vinyl to be adjusted once it is laid down.
4. Start at one end of the vinyl and work your way to the other end, making sure not to leave any air bubbles on the part that has already been laid.
5. If the surface is curved, then you may have to use a hair dryer or heat gun to stretch the vinyl and make it fit properly.
6. Slowly peel the transfer material (looks like masking tape) from the face of the vinyl. If the vinyl should detach from the surface, squeegee that part down again.
7. Enjoy your new vinyl.