

WATER-SLIDE DECALS

Prepare your wood surface by applying at least one coat of hard finish, such as varnish or lacquer, and sanding it smooth (600 grit) after it dries. You may also apply the decals to a fully finished instrument (no need for sanding if the surface is clean and smooth).

1. Gather these materials before you start:

Scissors	Razor knife (optional)
Masking tape	Paper Towels
Pencil	Pan of warm water, large enough for the decal
Ruler	

NOTE: You can watch a short video of decal installation on our web site, at harpkit.com/decals

2. Please note that some of our decals are printed on white film in order to give the most vibrant colors. These are the ones that say, "Cut carefully on the black line". If you are installing one of these decals, be sure to cut off any white that might show around the edges. Use either scissors or razor knife, whichever is easier.

3. If you have a decal that says it is printed on clear film, then you can cut it oversize because the extra film around the pattern will be transparent once you slide it off the backing paper. Note that clear decals look best on very light wood. Dark wood will obscure the pattern colors and details.

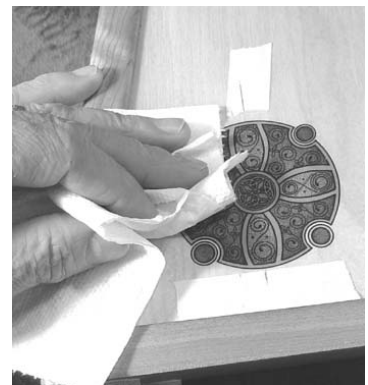
4. Once the decal is cut out, plan your placement of it on the instrument. If you are installing two decals on the same instrument, use a ruler to make sure they are positioned symmetrically. Use masking tape to mark the position(s) so you can easily place the wet decal(s) properly without guessing.



5. When you are ready to apply the decal, plunge it into the warm water and hold it under the surface for 30-60 seconds, until you can begin to slide the thin film off the backing paper.



6. Remove the decal from the backing and place it carefully on the instrument. You should be able to slide it around a little to center it properly.



7. Use a paper towel to gently dab off the excess moisture and work any wrinkles and bubbles out of the decal. This takes a little time. Look at the reflection of light on the decal to help you spot the bubbles.

8. When the decal is smooth, set it aside to dry thoroughly, for at least an hour or more.

9. When the decal is dry, you can apply a top coat of clear varnish to seal it permanently. This is optional, but if you want the decal to be permanent, you'll need to put sealer over it. If you think you might want to change the decoration sometime in the future, then you can leave it un-sealed. It can be peeled off by lifting one edge with a razor blade and pulling the dry film up and off.

Musicmaker's Kits, Inc.
PO Box 2117
Stillwater, MN 55082 USA
Harpkit.com