

# CREATING FINE LINE PATTERNS IN A COMMERCIAL MIRROR

The Fine Line technique produces crisp edges for complex shapes. The technique uses newly applied mirror backing paint to protect the silver you want to keep. Unlike other paints, mirror backing paint is brittle and breaks in a sharp line when dry.

## DO YOU HAVE A SILVER OR ALUMINUM MIRROR?

Carefully scrape off a very small area of backing paint on your mirror. Use a cotton swab (Q-Tip™) to apply a small amount of Aluminum Remover. If it does not have any effect on the silver, you have a silver mirror.

Mirror Remover does not dissolve aluminum and Aluminum Remover does not dissolve silver. Our Fine Line Silver Remover Kit includes both. Most factory-made mirrors sold in the US are silver.

## STEP 1 – APPLYING PAINT STRIPPER



1. From the front of the mirror, decide where you want to place your design and mark this area on the back of the mirror.
2. Apply a layer of Multi-Strip to the mirror backing paint that is about a 1 inch larger on all sides than your design.
3. Let the Multi-Strip sit until the paint underneath lifts off.

Allow time for the Multi-Strip to work. Depending on the paint, it can take anywhere from 15 minutes to several hours for the paint to lift up. Multi-Strip works faster in a warm damp environment.

## STEP 2 – LIFTING OFF THE PAINT



1. Lift off the Multi-Strip and the dissolved paint.
2. Rinse the exposed silver with distilled water to remove any residue from the Multi- Strip.
3. Dry the mirror carefully

### STEP 3 – APPLYING THE MASK



You can use a vinyl cutting machine to cut your mask or you can do it by hand.

Follow the instructions that came with your cutting machine to apply the mask.

We have separate instruction for cutting a vinyl mask by hand. See the Mirror Over Mask section on our website.

### STEP 4 – PAINT OVER THE MASK



1. Paint over the mask and all of the exposed silver with mirror backing paint.
2. Overlap the new paint onto the edges of the existing paint. Do not leave any silver exposed.
3. Allow the paint to dry for several hours or overnight. Letting it dry completely before you lift the vinyl will ensure crisp edges.

### STEP 5 – LIFT OFF THE MASK



1. Notice that you can see the outlines of your design under the new mirror backing paint.
2. Stick a pin under the vinyl to lift it and peel it off.
3. If you scratch the paint, repaint that area and allow it to dry completely before proceeding.

### STEP 6 – REMOVE THE UNPAINTED SILVER



Use a cotton ball or cotton swab dipped in Mirror Remover or Aluminum Remover to remove the exposed silver.

Use Mirror Remover for a silver mirror or Aluminum Remover for an aluminum mirror.

Clean off the remover with distilled water and dry your mirror.

Water will not damage the mirror or the paint if you dry it off soon.

## ADMIRE YOUR HANDIWORK



You have now created a clean, sharp clear glass area in a factory-made mirror.

Leave the glass clear or place whatever photo or decorative backing you would like behind it.

To achieve the same result when you silver the glass yourself, see our instructions for Silvering Over a Vinyl Mask.

You can use the same process to make gold, copper and galena mirrors too.

You can make a two-toned mirror by first applying one set of chemicals, allowing the paint to dry completely, lifting the mask and applying another set of chemicals over the dry paint.



866-341-3340  
ANGELGILDING.COM  
1945 GARDNER RD  
BROADVIEW, IL 60155  
CUST.SERVICE@ANGELGILDING.COM