3M

Application Tape
Premasking and Prespacing Tapes

Product Bulletin

Products

This Bulletin provides an overview of all 3M premasking and prespacing tape.
All product-specific information is included in this bulletin.

Product Line

Paper Application Tapes
premasking

3M™ Premasking Tape SCPM-19
3M™ Premasking Tape SCPM-44X

prespacing

3M™ Prespacing Tape SCPS-2
3M™ Prespacing Tape SCPS-55
3M™ Prespacing Tape SCPS-100
3M™ Prespacing Tape IAT ecg

Film Application Tapes
prespacing

3M™ Clear Prespacing Tape SCPS-101

Product Characteristics

These are typical values for unprocessed products.
Contact your 3M representative for a custom specification.

Physical & Application

Material	Paper Application Tapes: paper Film Application Tapes: clear film	
Thickness (paper) Thickness (film)	110 µm to 120 µm (0.11 mm to 0.12 mm) 90 µm 100 µm (0.09 mm to 0.10 mm)	
Adhesive type	pressure-sensitive	
Adhesive apperance	clear	
Adhesion	1.5 to 3.5 N/25mm	FTM 1: 180° peel, substrate stainless steel, cond. 24h 23°C 50%rh
	Each tape has a different adhesion, designed to work with the films, inks and graphic protection as recommended in this bulletin.	
Application method	Lamination of Application Tape dry only!	

Usage Recommendations

Application tape is not required for all films or types of application. It is even specifically not recommended for certain film or application.

The type of premasking or prespacing tape to use depends on the type of grahics produced and the last component (ink, overlamintate or clear) that was applied to the graphic construction.

When to use an Application Tape

An application tape can reduce stretching, wrinkling and air entrapment during hand application of the graphic. Typically we recommend the usage of an application tape when the graphic meets at least one of these criteria:
- graphic construction is less than 100 µm
- striping or intricately-cut graphics
- cut graphics; eliminates the time consuming layout of individual parts on the application surface.

The use of Film Application Tape is recommended for assembling multi-colored graphics.

Important!

Always check for ease of part pick up before releasing the job. This is particularly important if the cut graphics include small letters, narrow stroke letters or intricate designs.

Graphic film with Controltac™ and/or Comply™ should not be removed from the liner and then be reapplied to the liner. These key application features will be lost if you prematurely remove the liner.

Do not use an application tape for graphic installations on textured substrates. The graphic may not have enough initial adhesion to the substrate to allow tape removal without lifting the film of the substrate.

Surface	Large format (> 0.5 m²)		Small format (< 0.5 m²)	
Most unprinted Scotchcal™, Controltac™ films	SCPM-19		SCPS-100	SCPS-101
Graphics with exposed Comply™ liner	SCPS-55			
Premium ElectroCut™ films (SC 100, SC 220)	SCPS-100	SCPS-101	SCPS-2	SCPS-101
Scotchprint® Wrap Film 1080	SCPS-55			
Glass decoration films SC 7725SE	SCPS-55			
Mirror films SC 7755SE	SCPS-2			
Intermediate and promotional ElectroCut™ films SC 30, SC 50, SC 2330, SC 5525SE	IAT ecg			
Most overlaminates	SCPM-19		SCPS-100	
Thick overlaminates (i.e. graphics for floors)	not required			
Overlaminate for window graphics SC 8914i	not recommended			
Solvent inks, uncleared	SCPS-100			
Most solvent clears	SCPS-100			
8920	SCPM-44X			

1955abc	SCPS-100	SCPS-2
Film 3545C with solvent clear	SCPM-44X	Do not use this products for prespaced graphics
UV inks, uncleared	SCPM-44X	
Most UV clears	SCPM-44X	

Shelf Life, Storage and Handling

Storage conditions!	Tape ages especially when stored at elevated temperatures. Its adhesive becomes more aggressive. Store Film Application Tape rolls in a vertical position.
Handling	Unrolling the tape during mechanical application can cause the tape to stretch resulting in pop-off and curl of the graphic. If graphic film applied with tape has been improperly stored, the removal of the tape after graphic installation might be more difficult and result in edge lifting.
Unused application tape	Shelf life is 1 year from the date of purchase when stored in a cool, dry place out of sunlight.
Graphics with application tape applied	After the tape has been applied store the graphic in a cool, dry place out of sunlight. Store graphics flat or wrapped onto a core with a minimum diameter of 150 mm (6"). Very stiff films (i.e. reflective material) store flat only. Apply the finished graphic laminated with Paper Application Tape within one year from the date of its processing. Storage of graphics laminated with any Film Application Tape above 25°C can cause lifting or tunneling. In order to minimize this effect it is recommended to apply the finished graphic laminated with Film Application Tape within 3 months from the date of its processing.

Remarks

This bulletin provides technical information only.

Important Notice

All questions of warranty and liability relating to this product are governed by the terms and conditions of the sale, subject, where applicable, to the prevailing law.

Before using, the user must determine the suitability of the product for its required or intended use, and the user assumes all risk and liability whatsoever in connection therewith.

Additional Information

Visit the web site of your local subsidary at www.3mgraphics.com for getting more:

- details about 3M MCS Warranty and 3M Performance Guarantee
- additional instruction bulletins
- a complete product overview about materials 3M is offering.