

## Premasking and Prespacing Tapes for Graphic Films

### Product Description

- An application tape is an adhesive-backed translucent or clear material that is used as an aid in applying graphics
- Typical uses of application tapes are:
  - to add stiffness to make application easier.
  - to protect the film from stretching during application.
  - to protect the graphic image from scratching during application.
  - to aid in the registration of cut graphic parts.
  - to protect applied graphics from damage during other operations.
- Differences between application tapes are described below:
  - Each tape has a different level of adhesion. This ensures that the tape you use has a lower adhesion to the film than the film does to the substrate.
  - Determining what type of application tape to use depends on the type of graphic and the last component of the graphic construction (i.e., the top of the graphic). See [3M Instruction Bulletin AT-1](#) for details. Using the correct type of application tape ensures easy removal.

#### Quick Links

[3M Graphics Warranties](#)  
[Technical Information Selector](#)  
[Safety Data Sheets \(SDS\)](#)  
[Flammability](#)  
[Videos](#)

Some of these links lead to web-based resources that are not product-specific.

### Product Lines

- [3M™ Premasking Tape SCPM-3](#)
- [3M™ Premasking Tape SCPM-44X](#)
- [3M™ Prespacing Tape SCPS-2](#)
- [3M™ Prespacing Tape SCPS-53X](#)
- [3M™ Prespacing Tape SCPS-55](#)
- [3M™ Prespacing Tape SCPS-102](#)

### Characteristics

These are typical values for unprocessed product. Processing may change the values.

#### Physical Characteristics

Characteristic	Value
<b>Tape Material</b>	Paper (SCPM-3, -44X, SCPS-2, 53X, 55), or clear film (SCPS-102)
<b>Thickness</b>	4.5-5 mils (0.11-0.12 mm)
<b>Adhesive Type</b>	Pressure-sensitive
<b>Adhesive Color</b>	Clear
<b>Adhesion to 3M™ Graphic Films</b>	0.39-0.77 pounds/inch (69-138 g/cm) Note: Each tape has a different adhesion, designed to work with the films, inks, and graphic protection as recommended in <a href="#">3M Instruction Bulletin AT-1</a>
<b>Service Temperature Range</b>	Same as the film with which it is used

### Usage Recommendations

Application tape is not required for all films or types of applications and it is specifically not recommended for certain film or applications. Refer to the most current 3M Product and Instructions Bulletins for information on specific constructions and end use recommendations



## Warranty Information

### Warranty Coverage Overview

The warranty coverage for eligible graphics is based on the user both reading and following all applicable and current 3M Graphics Product and Instruction Bulletins. The warranty period for eligible graphics is as stated in the 3M Graphics Warranties Matrices at the time that the film was purchased. Information found at [3M.com/graphicswarranties](https://www.3m.com/graphicswarranties) includes:

- [3M Graphics Warranties Bulletin](#)
  - This bulletin contains information on limitations and exceptions, and warranty period reductions for 3M Graphics Warranties. The warranty period may be reduced and stipulations may apply for certain constructions, applications, and graphic exposures as covered in this Bulletin.
- [3M Graphics Warranties Selector](#)
  - Use this selector to search for your vertical warranty period by product type, ink type, film name, and/or ink/printer platform.
- [U.S. Desert Southwest Region Map](#)
  - Use this map of hot, arid desert areas to determine if you are subject to reduced warranted durabilities.

The warranties set forth in this Bulletin are made in lieu of all other express or implied warranties, including any implied warranty of merchantability, fitness for a particular purpose, or arising out of a course of dealing, custom, or usage of trade.

### 3M Basic Product Warranty

3M Graphics Products are warranted to be free of defects in materials and manufacture at the time of shipment and to meet the specifications stated in its applicable 3M Graphics Product Bulletin and as further set forth in the [3M Graphics Warranties Bulletin](#).

### Limited Remedy

The limited remedy applicable to each warranty is addressed in the 3M Graphics Warranties Bulletin found at [3M.com/graphicswarranties](https://www.3m.com/graphicswarranties).

### Limitation of Liability

Except where prohibited by law, 3M SHALL NOT UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES BE LIABLE TO PURCHASER OR USER FOR ANY DIRECT (EXCEPT FOR THE LIMITED REMEDY PROVIDED IN THE 3M GRAPHICS WARRANTIES BULLETIN), INDIRECT, SPECIAL, INCIDENTAL, OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES (INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, LABOR, NON-3M MATERIAL CHARGES, LOSS OF PROFITS, REVENUE, BUSINESS, OPPORTUNITY, OR GOODWILL) RESULTING FROM OR IN ANY WAY RELATED TO 3M'S GRAPHICS PRODUCTS, SERVICES, or THIS BULLETIN. This limitation of liability applies regardless of the legal or equitable theory under which such losses or damages are sought.

### Additional Limitations

See the 3M Graphics Warranties Bulletin at [3MGraphics.com/warranties](https://www.3m.com/graphicswarranties), for terms, additional limitations of your warranty, if any, and limitations of liability.



Before using any equipment, always read the manufacturer's instructions for safe operation.

## Application and Installation

In addition to other 3M Bulletins specified in this document, the following Bulletins provide details that you may need to successfully apply a graphic.

- [3M Instruction Bulletin 2.1](#) Design of graphics.
- [3M Instruction Bulletin 4.22](#) Lamination Basics for Inkjet Printed Graphics.
- [3M Instruction Bulletin 5.36](#) Application Techniques for Automobiles, Vans and Buses. Complete the 3M Pre-Installation Inspection Record found in this Instruction Bulletin prior to manufacturing or applying a graphic to an automobile, van, or bus.
- [3M Instruction Bulletin 5.4](#) Application, Fleet Trucks.
- [3M Instruction Bulletin 5.42](#) Application, Special Considerations for Watercraft. Complete the 3M Pre-Installation Inspection Record found in this Instruction Bulletin prior to manufacturing or applying a graphic to a watercraft.
- [3M Instruction Bulletin 5.5](#) Application, General Procedures for Interior and Exterior Dry Application.

## Shelf Life, Storage and Shipping

### Shelf Life

The shelf life is **never more than 1 year** from the date of manufacture on the original box.

If you process the film, the shelf life is changed to **1 year** from the processing date, or 1 year from the manufacturing date, whichever comes first.

### Storage Conditions

- 40° to 100 °F (4° to 38 °C)
- Out of sunlight
- Clean, dry area
- Original container
- Bring the film to room temperature before use

### Shipping Finished Graphics

Flat, or rolled printed side out on 6 inch (15 cm) or larger core. This helps prevent the application tape, if used, from popping off.

## Health and Safety

### CAUTION

When handling any chemical products, read the manufacturers' container labels and the Safety Data Sheets (SDS) for important health, safety and environmental information. To obtain SDS sheets for 3M products go to [3M.com/SDS](https://www.3m.com/SDS), or by mail or in case of an emergency, call 1-800-364-3577 or 1-651-737-6501.

When using any equipment, always follow the manufacturer's instructions for safe operation.