Science. Applied to Life.™

Balancing solids and dots for customer satisfaction.

3M[™] Flexographic Plate Mounting Systems | Selection Guide

Wide choice of adhesives, foams and thickness for the results your customers demand.

For halftone work where dot gain is a concern, a softer tape optimizes reproduction. When solids and dots share the plate, a combination tape can properly balance the result. When your customer requires solid ink and crisp lines, you'll want a firm, high density mounting tape.

From the wide 3M selection, you can find the adhesives, foams, and thickness for the print quality that customers demand and expect. You'll also find choices to meet your handling requirements for:

- Mounting ease and positioning accuracy
- Easy, clean removal from plate and cylinder



Microscopic view of adhesive surface measured with interferometer.



E-Series Tapes with Easy Mount Adhesive

On easy with reduced air entrapment. Unlike flat or pebbled liners, E-Series liners are crosshatched. This imprints unique micro-channels into the adhesive that allows air to flow throughout. Air bubbles disappear from between the tape and plate, and between the tape and cylinder or sleeve for virtually bubble-free mounting. Setup is faster with smoother surfaces for cleaner print quality and higher productivity.

Stays on with reduced edge-lifting. Exclusive 3M plate-side adhesive maintains tight contact. Saves the prep time, downtime and labor of sealing plate edges.

Peels off easily to reduce plate damage. Peels off so easily you can virtually eliminate plate back treatment. You're less likely to damage plates, so you save time, labor and money.

Bubble-free print quality. Prevent blemishes in screen and process printing. Help assure proper registration.

EH-Series Adhesive to hold the edge on small diameter cylinders

3M EH-Series Tapes combine the air-release of 3M E-Series Tapes with higher plate side adhesion to resist edge lifting on cylinder diameters as small as 2 inches.

L-Series Tapes with Less Removal Force

3M L-Series Tapes combine the air-release feature of 3M E-Series and H-Series Tapes. They are designed to provide easy and clean removal of printing plates across a wide range of printing applications with excellent resistance to plate lifting.

Solid Printing		Combination Printing						
400 Series Tapes: Solid	18 Series: Firm	17 Series: Medium Firm	15 Series: Medium	10 Series: Standard	13 Series: Medium Soft	19 Series: Light Medium	12 Series: Light	11 Series: Process
10% Highlight								
40% Midtone								
Reverse	9	2	2	2	2	9	2	2
100% Solid								
Uniform coverage of solids when halftone dot reproduction is not critical.	When plate contains mostly solids in a combination of solid and halftone images.	When plate contains slightly more solids in a combination of solid and halftone images.	For high speed printing with fine type reverses and expanded color gamut.	When solid and halftone areas are equally important.	For high speed printing of combination work when halftone areas exceed solid.	Improved tone reproduction at high speed when process and halftone images predominate.	Low density maximizes dot reproduction for high speed process and screen printing.	Low density maximizes dot reproduction for high quality process work and screen printing.
447, 447DL 411, 411DL, 413DL 412, 412DL, 414DL	E1815, E1815H, 1815M E1820, E1820H, 1820M E1840, E1840H E1860, E1860H L1820	E1715, E1715H E1720, E1720H, 1720M L1720	E1515, E1515H E1520, E1520H L1520	E1015, E1015H, 1015, 1015M E1020, E1020H, 1020M, 1020R E1040, E1040H, 1040 E1060, E1060H, 1060 L1020	E1315, E1315H E1320, E1320H L1320	E1915, E1915H, E1915H, E1915HS 1915M E1920, E1920H, E1920H, E1920HS, 1920M, 1920S L1920, L1920, L1920,	E1215, E1215H E1220, E1220H L1220	E1115, E1115H, 1115 E1120, E1120H, 1120, L1120

DL: Double Liner

E: Air Release, Standard Plate Side Adhesion

EH: Air Release, High Plate Side Adhesion

K: High Sleeve Side Adhesion for Composite Sleeves

L: Air Release, Less Removal Force and Plate Damage

M: Modified Plate Side Adhesion

R: For Rubber Plates

S: High Sleeve Side Adhesion for Urethane Sleeves

Note: Additional calipers available for specialized needs.

3M[™] Flexographic Plate Mounting Systems Selection Guide

			Manufactured						
	Product	Application Thickness	Target Thickness						
	Number	Inches (mm)	Inches (mm)	Description	Plates	Cylinders	Color	Features	
	400 Series — 3M [™] Fl	exomount [™] Solid	Plate Mounting T	apes	1			r	
3M [™] Solid Printing Tapes	411DL, 411	0.015 (0.38)	0.015 (0.38)	Gray double coated tape with	P/R	SS/SL	Gray	Gray vinyl tapes with high	
nting'	412DL, 412	0.020 (0.51)	0.020 (0.51)	a soft rubber adhesive on each side of a vinyl carrier. Available	P/R	SS/SL	Gray	adhesion. Helps reduce edge lifting. Helps minimize pin	
lid Pri	447DL, 447	0.010 (0.25)	0.010 (0.25)	in single and double liner.	P/R	SS/SL	Gray	holing on solid work.	
M™ So	413DL	0.015 (0.38)	0.015 (0.38)	Black double coated tape with a firm rubber adhesive on each	P/R	SS/SL	Black	Black vinyl with lower adhesion. Higher temperature	
.	414DL	0.020 (0.51)	0.020 (0.51)	side of a vinyl carrier. Available only in double liner.	P/R	SS/SL	Black	and solvent resistance. Helps minimize pin holing on solids.	
	18 Series — 3M [™] Cus	hion-Mount [™] Plus	Firm Combination	on Plate Mounting Tapes				- -	
	E1815H, E1815, 1815M	0.015 (0.38)	0.017 (0.43)		Р	SS/SL	Blue		
	E1820H, E1820, 1820M	0.020 (0.51)	0.022 (0.56)	Differential acrylate adhesive	Р	SS/SL	Blue	Better solid ink density than	
	E1840, E1840H	0.040 (1.02)	0.042 (1.07)	system on each side of a foam carrier, protected by a release	Р	SS/SL	Blue	the standard combination printing tapes. Clean removal	
	E1860, E1860H	0.060 (1.52)	0.062 (1.57)	liner on one side.	Р	SS/SL	Blue	from plate and print cylinder.	
	L1820	0.020 (0.51)	0.022 (0.56)		Р	SS/SL	Blue		
	17 Series — 3M [™] Cust	nion-Mount [™] Plus	Medium Firm Co	mbination Plate Mounting Tapes	s			1	
	E1715H, E1715	0.015 (0.38)	0.017 (0.43)	Differential acrylate adhesive	Р	SS/SL	Teal	Quality results when plate	
	E1720H, E1720, 1720M	0.020 (0.51)	0.022 (0.56)	system on each side of a foam carrier, protected by a release	Р	SS/SL	Teal	contains slightly more solids in a combination of solid and	
	L1720	0.020 (0.51)	0.022 (0.56)	liner on one side.	Р	SS/SL	Teal	halftone images.	
s	15 Series — 3M [™] Cusl	nion-Mount [™] Plus	Medium Combin	nation Plate Mounting Tapes	1			1	
3M [™] Combination Printing Tapes	E1515, E1515H	0.015 (0.38)	0.017 (0.43)	Differential acrylate adhesive	Р	SS/SL	Purple	High quality, medium	
rinting	E1520, E1520H	0.020 (0.51)	0.022 (0.56)	system on each side of a foam carrier, protected by a release liner on one side.	Р	SS/SL	Purple	combination print. Adhesive removes cleanly from the print plate and the print cylinder.	
tion P	L1520	0.020 (0.51)	0.022 (0.56)		Р	SS/SL	Purple		
oina		hion-Mount [™] Plus	Standard Comb	ination Plate Mounting Tapes	1				
Comb	E1015H, E1015, 1015, 1015M	0.015 (0.38)	0.017 (0.43)	-	Р	SS/SL	White	-	
3M™	E1015-15H, E1015-15, 1015-15	0.015 (0.38)	0.015 (0.38)	-	Р	SS/SL	White	-	
	E1020H, E1020, 1020, 1020M	0.020 (0.51)	0.022 (0.56)	-	Р	SS/SL	White	-	
	1020R	0.020 (0.51)	0.022 (0.56)	Differential acrylate adhesive system on each side of a foam	P/R	SS/SL	White	Most versatile 3M [™] Cushion- Mount [™] Plus Tapes. Effectively	
	E1020-20H, E1020-20, 1020-20	0.020 (0.51)	0.020 (0.51)	carrier, protected by a release liner on one side.	Р	SS/SL	White	prints most types of flexographic printing.	
	E1040H, E1040, 1040	0.040 (1.02)	0.042 (1.07)	4	Р	SS/SL	White	4	
	E1060H, E1060, 1060	0.060 (1.52)	0.062 (1.57)	-	Р	SS/SL	White	4	
	L1020	0.020 (0.51)	0.022 (0.56)		Р	SS/SL	White		
	13 Series — 3M [™] Cus	hion-Mount [™] Plus	Medium Combi	nation Plate Mounting Tapes					
	E1315H, E1315	0.015 (0.38)	0.017 (0.43)	Differential acrylate adhesive	Р	SS/SL	Yellow	High quality, medium-soft	
	E1320H, E1320	0.020 (0.51)	0.022 (0.56)	system on each side of a foam carrier, protected by a release liner on one side.	Р	SS/SL	Yellow	combination print. Adhesive removes cleanly from the print plate and the print cylinder.	
	L1320	0.020 (0.51)	0.022 (0.56)		Р	SS/SL	Yellow	plate and the print Cylinder.	

Note: This technical information and data should be considered representative or typical only and should not be used for specification purposes.

DL – Double Liner; E – Air Release, Standard Plate Side Adhesion; EH – Air Release, High Plate Side Adhesion; K – High Sleeve Side Adhesion for Composite Sleeves; L – Air Release, Less Removal Force and Plate Damage; M – Modified Plate Side Adhesion; P – Photopolymer Plates; R – For Rubber Plates; S – High Adhesion on Cylinder/Sleeve Side; SL – Sleeve; SS – Stainless Steel Cylinder

3M[™] Flexographic Plate Mounting Systems Selection Guide (cont.)

	Product Number	Application Thickness Inches (mm)	Manufactured Target Thickness Inches (mm)	Description	Plates	Cylinders	Color	Features
	19 Series — 3M [™] Cus	hion-Mount [™] Plus	Soft Combination	on Plate Mounting Tapes				
	E1915, E1915H, 1915M	0.015 (0.38)	0.017 (0.43)	-	Р	SS/SL	Pink	
cont.	E1915HS, E1915S	0.015 (0.38)	0.017 (0.43)		Р	SL	Pink	
Tapes	E1920H, E1920, 1920M	0.020 (0.51)	0.022 (0.56)	Differential acrylate adhesive system on each side of a foam	Р	SS/SL	Pink	Soft support improves tone reduction when process and
nting ⁻	E1920S, 1920S, E1920HS	0.020 (0.51)	0.022 (0.56)	carrier, protected by a release liner on one side.	Р	SL	Pink	halftone images predominate.
in Printin	L1920	0.020 (0.51)	0.022 (0.56)		Р	SS/SL	Pink	
" Combination	L1920S	0.020 (0.51)	0.022 (0.56)		Р	SL	Pink	
Ê	12 Series — 3M [™] Cus	hion-Mount [™] Plus	Light Combinati	on Plate Mounting Tapes				
°°″	E1215H, E1215	0.015 (0.38)	0.017 (0.43)	Differential acrylate adhesive	Р	SS/SL	Orange	High quality, light combination print. Adhesive removes
3M	E1220H, E1220	0.020 (0.51)	0.022 (0.56)	system on each side of a foam carrier, protected by a release	Р	SS/SL	Orange	cleanly from the print plate and the print cylinder. Air
	L1220	0.020 (0.51)	0.022 (0.56)	liner on one side.	Р	SS/SL	Orange	release on both adhesive surfaces.
es	11 Series — 3M [™] Cusł	nion-Mount [™] Plus	Process Plate Mo	punting Tapes				
g Tape	E1115H, E1115, 1115	0.015 (0.38)	0.017 (0.43)		Р	SS/SL	Tan	
Printing	E1115-15H, E1115-15, 1115-15	0.015 (0.38)	0.015 (0.38)	Differential acrylate adhesive	Р	SS/SL	Tan	Better tone reproduction than
ssa	E1120H, E1120, 1120	0.020 (0.51)	0.022 (0.56)	system on each side of a foam carrier, protected by a release	Р	SS/SL	Tan	the standard combination printing tapes. Clean removal
[^] Proc	E1120-20H, E1120-20, 1120-20	0.020 (0.51)	0.020 (0.51)	liner on one side.	Р	SS/SL	Tan	from plate and print cylinder.
3M	L1120	0.020 (0.51)	0.022 (0.56)		Р	SS/SL	Tan	

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3M[™] Thin Tapes

When cushioning is unnecessary, these tapes can mount both rubber and photopolymer plates. Some are also repositionable.



Designed specifically for flexographic printing on corrugated board, 3M[™] Thin Flexographic Mounting Tape 2205 is a 5-mil double-coated polyester film tape with cross-hatched adhesive. The cross hatching reduces air entrapment, saving time and improving print quality.

Product Number	Tape Thickness Mils (mm)	Description	Compressible Sleeves	Corrugated	Rotary Letterpress	Make Ready	Features
415	4.0 (0.10)	Double coated tape with a medium-firm acrylic adhesive on each side of a polyester carrier.					Good adhesion to a wide range of surfaces. Can be used for Cameron Press applications, splice papers, films and foils.
927	2.0 (0.05)	Acrylic adhesive transfer tape.					Corrugated plate mounting applications where repositionability and removability
950	5.0 (0.13)	Acrylic adhesive transfer tape.					are not required.
E2105	5.0 (0.13)	Double coated film tape with differential acrylic adhesive on a polyester film carrier.					Specifically designed for mounting flexographic print plates to cushioned/ compressible sleeves. Both adhesives are designed to provide high holding power and to cleanly remove from both the plate and the sleeve.
2205	5.0 (0.13)	Double coated film tape with differential acrylic adhesive on a polyester film carrier.					Adhesives designed specifically for corrugated flexo mounting. Removes cleanly and easy to reposition.
9500PC	5.6 (0.14)	High performance acrylic adhesive with good chemical resistance.					Thin tape plate mounting applications requiring higher performance than 442KW Tape.

All tapes listed on this chart have been used successfully on non-compressible sleeves.

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Plate Edge Sealing

3M[™] Hot Melt Bonding Systems

Easily apply 3M[™] Hot Melt Adhesives 3762LM, 3776LM, 3792LM or 3798LM with a 3M[™] Hot Melt Applicator LT to seal plate edges against ink and solvent penetration that can cause edge lifting.





3M [™] Hot Melt Applicator	Weight	Output (lb/hr)	Temperature	Adhesive Size (dia. x length)	Accessories (keyed below)
ц	10.0 oz.	2.6	265°F (129°C)	5/8" x 2" TC	1 2 3 4
LT with Quadrack [™] Converter	13.8 oz.	2.6	265°F (129°C)	5/8" x 8" Q	1 4

Tip No.	Description
9913	2-hole Spreader (1/4" hole span)
9916	3-hole Spreader
9921	.090" Fluted Tip
9922	.063" Fluted Tip
9940	.125" Fluted Tip
9725	.072" Mini Extension Tip
9785	.070" Tapered Aluminum Extension



A general purpose tip

(9921) is supplied with each 3M[™] Hot

Melt Applicator.

Optional tips

are available to increase productivity.



Increase loading capacity and ease of operation with Quadrack[™] Converter and Palm Trigger.



3M[™] Hot Melt Adhesives

Product Number (Color)	Features	Size	Delivery Time for 1" x 3" Cartridge	Heat Resistance	Peel Strength PIW 72°F (22°C)	Shear Strength PSI 72°F (22°C)	Open Time 1/8" Bead
Low Melt Techr	ology: Applied 250–270°F (127–132°C)						
3762LM* (Lt. Amber)	Economical, fast setting, general purpose	5/8" x 8" Q 5/8" x 2" TC	45 sec.	130°F (54°C)	6	480	25 sec.
3776LM (Tan)	Bonds variety of materials	5/8" x 8" Q	47 sec.	140°F (60°C)	9	600	40 sec.
3792LM* (Clear)	Clear, multi-purpose	5/8" x 8" Q 5/8" x 2" TC	57 sec.	140°F (60°C)	13	350	40 sec.
3798LM* (Clear)	Removable "gummy glue" adhesive	5/8" x 2" TC	N/A	120°F (49°C)	N/A	N/A	30 sec.

*Also available in bulk.

Note: This technical information and data should be considered representative or typical only and should not be used for specification purposes.

Plate Edge Sealing (cont.)

Multiple options with 3M[™] Single Coated Tapes

3M[™] Aluminum Foil Tape 425, 3M[™] Vinyl Tape 471 or 3M[™] Polyester Film Tape 850 are pressure sensitive adhesive tapes that bond on contact to seal plate edges against ink and solvent penetration that can cause edge lifting.

Product Information

Product Number (Color)	Tape Structure (Backing/Adhesive)	Backing Thickness Mils (mm)	Total Thickness Mils (mm)	Adhesion to Steel oz./in. (N/100mm)	Tensile Strength Ibs./in. (N/100mm)	Elongation at Break (%)	Temperature Range	Features
Premium Perfor	mance Aluminum Foil	Таре						
425* (Silver)	Aluminum/Acrylic	2.8 (0.07)	4.6 (0.12)	47 (51)	30 (525)	8	-65 to 300°F (-54 to 149°C)	Most versatile aluminum tape.
Premium Perfor	mance Vinyl Tape			·				
471 (Various)	Vinyl/Rubber	4.1 (0.10)	5.2 (0.13)	23 (25)	16 (280)	130	40 to 170°F (4 to 77°C)	Conformable and clean removal. Black, Blue, Brown, Green, Orange, Purple, Red, Transparent, White, Yellow.
General Industr	ial Tapes							
850 (Transparent)	Polyester/Acrylic	0.9 (0.02)	1.9 (0.05)	30 (33)	28 (491)	120	-60 to 300°F (-50 to 150°C)	Splicing, holding, sealing, highly transparent.
850 (White, Red, Black)	Polyester/Acrylic	0.9 (0.02)	1.9 (0.05)	30 (33)	28 (491)	120	-60 to 300°F (-50 to 150°C)	Splicing, holding, decorating, color- coding, sealing.
850 (Silver)	Metallic Polyester/ Acrylic	0.9 (0.02)	1.9 (0.05)	42 (46)	28 (491)	120	-60 to 300°F (-50 to 150°C)	Splicing, holding, decorating, color- coding, sealing.

*Can be qualified to L-T-80B, MIL-T-23397B II; Meets U.L., Class L File R 7311; F.A.R.25.853 (a); Meets U.L.746C File E122798

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To seal plate edges against ink and solvent penetration that can weaken mounting tape strength, 3M[™] Aluminum Foil Tape 425 (left) and 3M[™] Vinyl Tape 471 (right) apply easily, bonding on contact and conforming over the plate edge.

Splicing Tape

3M[™] Splittable Flying Splice Tape 8387

Maximize speed. Keep your presses running at higher speeds so you can get the best from your press with consistent results.

Optimize surface adhesion. Splice even the most challenging substrates, such as: polyethylene, biaxially oriented polypropylene, cast polypropylene, polyester and aluminum foil.

Minimize contamination. Save cleanup time and money by reducing tab debris and fiber contamination on your central impression (CI) drum and rollers, as well as eliminating the hazards of using glue.



Product Number	Adhesive	Backing	Liner	Color	Tape Thickness Mils (mm)	Liner Thickness Mils (mm)	Post — Split Tape Thickness Mils (mm)
8387	Differential Adhesive	Film	Easy-release coated paper	Splicing Side: Pink Tabbing Side: Black	7.0 (0.19) without liner	3.0 (0.09)	Splicing: 4.0 (0.10) Tabbing: 3.0 (0.09)

Other Mounting Essentials











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Phone	800-362-3550
Fax	877-369-2923
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3M[™] Cylinder Mount Build-Up Tape 1640

For use with any 3M flexographic tape to add 0.040" thickness. Facilitates use of thinner printing plates.

Scotch[®] Magic Tape 810

Secures proofing paper to a proofer/mounter with good adhesion but simple removal from the proofing cylinder.

3M[™] Primer 94

Helps hold the leading and trailing edges of the plate to prevent edge lifting.

3M[™] Hand Roller 903

For virtually air-free mounting, helps air bleed through and out of the adhesive micro-channels in 3M[™] Flexographic Plate Mounting Tapes

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