



Scotch™

Fine Line Tape 218

Product Data Sheet

Updated : February 2001
Supersedes : March 1996

Product Description

A green matt finish polypropylene film formulated to give excellent conformability.

The combination of the thin film and rubber resin adhesive provides a masking tape which gives high quality paint lines.

Physical Properties

Not for specification purposes

Adhesive Type	Pigmented rubber-resin.	
Backing	Polypropylene.	
Thickness (ASTM D-3652)	114 µm	
Tape Colour	Matt green	
Shelf Life	12 months from date of despatch by 3M when stored in the original carton at 21°C (70°F) & 50 % Relative Humidity	

Performance

Characteristics

Not for specification purposes

Adhesion to Stainless Steel ASTM D-3330	3.3 N/10mm	
Tensile Strength ASTM D-3759	18.4 N/10mm	
Elongation at Break ASTM D-3759	13.0 % Until film orients.	
Temperature Range Maximum	120 °C	

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Additional Product Information

No. 218 will give the finest colour line separation available due to its thinness.

The special processed film backing stretches easily for smooth curves yet can be easily torn by hand with a quick tearing action against the thumb nail.

The special processed No. 218 film backing will allow taping over fresh acrylic lacquer and enable overpainting jobs sooner with less chance of imprint damage.

No. 218 has excellent moisture and solvent resistance.

For the best paint line, 218 tape should be removed before the paint is completely dry.

No. 218 is not recommended for outdoor applications.

218 is not considered a high temperature tape but could be used on bake cycles up to 120°C for period of 30 minutes.

Application Techniques

1. Bond strength is dependent upon the amount of adhesive-to-surface contact developed. Firm application pressure develops better adhesive contact & thus improves bond strength.

2. To obtain optimum adhesion, the bonding

surfaces must be clean dry and well unified. A typical surface cleaning solvent is isopropyl alcohol & water. Use proper safety precautions for handling solvents.

3. Ideal tape application temperature range is 21°C to 38°C (70°F to 100°F).

Initial tape application to surfaces at temperatures below 10°C (50°F) is not recommended because the adhesive becomes too firm to adhere readily. However once properly applied low temperature holding is generally satisfactory.

Applications

Fine line paint masking.

Moisture resistant masking.

Solvent resistant masking.

Silk screen masking.

Circuit board conformal coat masking.

Circuit board splash mask protection.

Electroplating stop off masking, non-critical.

Lettering.

Write or mark on its matt backing.

Can sealing.

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Features	Advantages	Benefits
Polypropylene film backing.	Conformability.	Less recovery and lift on curves/ less rework.
	Smoothness.	Less chance of imprint damage/ fewer rejects.
	Thinness.	Minimum edge build up superior paint job.
	Solvent and moisture resistance.	Reduced bleed through/less rework
	Easy hand tear.	Better handling/labour savings.
Matt finish backing.	Good paint anchorage.	Less flaking and paint runs/less rework.
Balanced rubber resin masking adhesive.	Instant adhesion.	Sticks easier/less labour involved.
	Good holding power.	Resists lifting or curling/less rework
	Adhesive transfer resistance.	Clean removal/reduced labour.
Exclusive backsize treatment.	Controlled unwind.	Easier to use/less waste.

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Values presented have been determined by standard test methods and are average values not to be used for specification purposes. Our recommendations on the use of our products are based on tests believed to be reliable but we would ask that you conduct your own tests to determine their suitability for your applications. This is because 3M cannot accept any responsibility or liability direct or consequential for loss or damage caused as a result of our recommendations.



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