

The Top Ten Reasons to Choose Tape

3M™ Acrylic Foam Tape Versus Mechanical Fasteners

1. No rust or surface deterioration. Acrylic foam tape use eliminates the concern for rust development and surface deterioration because it requires no drilling.
2. Preserved warranties. OEM warranties are often considered void when Class A surfaces are compromised by drilling. Acrylic foam tape provides field-proven adhesion for many applications without drilling.
3. No holes to patch. Sometimes people choose to remove accessories or parts from their vehicles. By using acrylic foam tape, there is no need to fill holes and repaint surfaces if a part needs removing. Acrylic foam tapes can be removed with a special tool called 3M™ Scotch-Brite™ Stripe-off Removal Wheel.
4. No part loosening and vibration. Mechanically attached assemblies can loosen and shift over time, sometimes creating vibration or a rattling sound. When properly applied, acrylic foam tape provides a reliable, permanent bond.
5. Less labor-intensive assembly. The use of acrylic foam tape can eliminate steps in the installation process, often requiring fewer parts and less labor.
6. Unique stress relaxation properties. The stress relaxation properties of the tape's foam core allow it to expand and contract with temperature changes and to compensate for some part-to-vehicle fit mismatch. The stress forces of an application are not concentrated at the adhesive bond line, but rather dissipated throughout the foam core, providing excellent long-term performance.
7. Viscoelasticity. The acrylic foam tape is viscoelastic, meaning it acts as both a liquid (viscous) and a solid (elastic) at the same time. In its viscous (liquid) state, it flows into microscopic surface irregularities to establish a strong adhesive bond. The elastic (solid) properties provide the internal or cohesive strength necessary to maintain the bond. These viscoelastic properties also contribute to the stress relaxation characteristics of the acrylic foam tape. They allow it to conform to surface irregularities and gaps, allowing for a better fit by compensating for part-to-vehicle mismatches.
8. Aesthetically pleasing result. Tape use eliminates unsightly bolt and screw heads. Surfaces remain clean and smooth. In this way, tape mounting allows greater design flexibility than mechanical fasteners, and can contribute to styling and aerodynamic design.
9. OEM-approved technology. 3M™ Acrylic Foam Tapes are approved by automotive original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) worldwide.
10. Extensive tape testing and experience. 3M acrylic foam tapes are continuously being tested, developed and improved to ensure that they meet the changing needs of the automotive market. 3M is in contact with OEMs on a regular basis to remain on the forefront of market needs in the evolving automotive environment.



Here are some of the ways aftermarket parts manufacturers are applying the performance of acrylic foam tapes to their unique trim and restyling products:

Interior dash trim overlays

Headlight / taillight covers

Cladding

Stainless-steel rocker panels

Body side moldings

Louvers

Bug deflectors

Door edge moldings

Scoops

Luggage rack rub rails

Weatherstripping

Side skirts

Rear deck wings

Ground effects

Spoilers

Wind and rain deflectors

Running lights

Cab extenders

Tailgate protectors

Nameplates / ornamentation

Taillight lenses

Truck bed liners

Wheel flares

Running boards

Fender extenders

Air dams

Stationary side glass

Wheel well moldings

Sunroof wind deflectors

Wheel appliques



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