3M™ Gripping Material

Micro-replication technology. Increasing holding power at work or play.
Get a grip on applications in dry, wet and oily conditions.

Thousands of gripping fingers to increase traction, reduce slippage, and improve grip.

If you design or manufacture products where getting a grip is a performance requirement, strengthen your competitive advantage with 3M™ Gripping Material products. This 3M innovation utilizes 3M patented micro-replication technology to add thousands of micro gripping fingers on one side of a flexible backing to enhance control and improve performance in applications such as jackhammers, kayak paddles, therapeutic medical equipment, wheelchairs, handrails, and more.

At work, home, or play, your customers will see a noticeable increase in holding power, while using less force, no matter what the end use application. Ultimately this can lead to enhanced performance and decreased fatigue.

Performance features at a glance
- Increases friction to reduce slippage even in wet conditions
- Immediate release when the hand lets go
- Abrasion and puncture resistance for tough use in a factory or on a field
- Water resistance for secure attachment
- Performs across a broad temperature range from -40 to 140°F (-40 to 60°C) indoors and out

3M™ Gripping Material for sure hold with less fatigue
Versatile application in many markets.

Choice of adhesive-backed, plain-backed, or molded.

**Application features at a glance**

- Adhesive-backed version sticks on contact to most materials as quickly and easily as tape
- Plain-backed version can be sewn to fabric and leather
- Custom molded grips can be designed to be slipped over handles and shafts

**Adhesives-backed** versions stick on contact to many metals, plastics, and sealed woods for a fast, easy increase in traction for applications such as fishing rods or ATV handles.

**Plain-backed** versions offer some stretch and are designed for sew-on applications such as sports gloves or work gloves, where improved grip is a performance advantage.

---

**3M™ Gripping Material**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>At Work</th>
<th>At Play</th>
<th>At Home</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| • Work gloves  
• Industrial tool handles and levers  
• Automotive and construction hand tools  
• Construction equipment steering wheels and levers  
• Truck, forklift and auto steering wheels  
• Handrails | • Bat wraps  
• Baseball batting gloves  
• Golf club gloves and grips  
• Water ski gloves and equipment  
• Snow ski gloves and equipment  
• Racquetball gloves and grips  
• Bicycle handlebars and gloves  
• Fishing rods | • Power tools  
• Garden tools  
• Lawn care equipment  
• Snow blowers  
• Medical assistive and therapeutic products  
• And more |
5 Steps for choosing the right products for your application.

1. Determine adhesive-backed, plain, or molded

Adhesive-backed sticks on contact

3M pressure sensitive acrylic adhesive sticks on contact to many metals, plastics, and sealed woods. It sticks even to hard-to-bond low surface energy plastics, such as polypropylene and powder-coated metals.

Plain-backed for sew-on applications

Plain-backed products provide some stretch, and are designed for sew-on applications such as gloves, where fabrics or leather are used. Plain-backed products can be washed if necessary.

Molded grips

3M high durability molded grips can be custom designed and manufactured for different high volume applications.

2. Determine if you need a 1-part or 2-part system.

3. Determine the end use condition of dry, wet, or oily.

4. Select the balance of tactility (soft/firm), durability (low/high), and friction.

5. Select appropriate trial bags for testing.
Gripping power increases with a 2-part system

In a one-part system, the 3M™ Gripping Material product is either on a glove or on the surface to be gripped. In a two-part systems, 3M™ Gripping Material is on both the glove and the surface to be gripped.

Specific results depend on the tactility (firmness/softness) of the 3M™ Gripping Material and the dryness/wetness of the gripped surface during use.

Firm gripping materials are best for oily conditions.

Soft gripping materials improve performance, but are not designed for oily conditions.

Increase friction when dry, wet, or oily

The information in this chart is the same as above but presented from the perspective of end use conditions rather than a 1-part or 2-part system.

In most environmental conditions, a 1-part or 2-part system increases friction compared to a bare hand on a bare surface.

Note: All technical information and data should be considered representative or typical only and should not be used for specification purposes.
Durability matched to the job

3M™ Gripping Material products are available with a range of tactility from very soft to firm.

Soft Gripping Material products are designed to be more comfortable during skin contact. Softer products tend to be more flexible to contour more easily to curves with small radii. Firm Gripping Material products are extremely durable, and tend to be stiffer.

If prolonged service life in harsh use conditions is a critical feature for your product, durability of the gripping material increases with firmness. Actual service life will depend on frequency of use and severity of end use conditions, but typically, most 3M™ Gripping Material may outlast leather in a factory or in the field.

Each product in the line is engineered to resist abrasion, puncturing, water, chemicals, heat, and sunlight. Results will vary, depending on specific product and application combinations.

- No degradation after a 15 minute submersion in brake fluid, regular unleaded gasoline, W30 motor oil, diesel fuel, and other chemicals
- Physical characteristics retained at up to 140°F (60°C)
- GM640 and GM641 offer good resistance to UV sunlight with only some fading over time

As shown in the chart, Gripping Material products offer a range of durability, tactility, and friction. The softer the product, the greater the friction, and lower the durability. The firmer the product, the lower the friction (unless mated) and greater the durability. The position of the product numbers will help you determine the balance of properties you need for selecting a product to test.
Gripping study results

**University of Minnesota**
In one University of Minnesota study, driving distance increased for golfers with 3M™ Gripping Material on their gloves, taking each competitor 10-feet closer to pin.

**University of Wisconsin**
At the University of Wisconsin, a two-part system in dry conditions more than doubled friction compared to a leather glove on a rubber grip. Friction tripled in wet conditions, and was 70x higher in oily conditions.

**NCAA Division II**
Varsity baseball players’ bat speed increased 4.4% for players using batting gloves made with 3M™ Gripping Material along with bat wrap tape. In going for the home run, fly ball distance increased 16.6 feet when material was also added to the bat grip.

See the performance in a gripping video demo on YouTube...

Get a grip with a 3M Technical Service Representative (TSR) and use Trial Bags for testing

3M™ Gripping Materials are available in black, grey or clear rolls and as custom molded grips. Custom colors are available for qualifying quantities.

Before investing in production quantities, you can purchase any adhesive-backed materials as rolls or sheets for testing in your application. (see back for details).

A 3M TSR representative will help you determine what works best for your specific application. Contact your 3M Sales Representative for additional information.
### 3M™ Gripping Material

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product</th>
<th>Color</th>
<th>Durability 1-10</th>
<th>Friction 1-10</th>
<th>Tactility 1-10</th>
<th>Thickness mils (mm)</th>
<th>Weight oz/yd² (g/m²)</th>
<th>Temp. Use Range °F (°C)</th>
<th>Chemical Resistance 1-10</th>
<th>UV Resistance 1-10</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Trial Bags</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GM400</td>
<td>Black</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>32 (0.81)</td>
<td>9.5 (323)</td>
<td>-40 to 140° (-40 to 60)</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>TB400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GM531</td>
<td>Black</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>36 (0.91)</td>
<td>10.9 (372)</td>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>TB531</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GM631</td>
<td>Grey</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>38 (0.97)</td>
<td>11.5 (389)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GM641</td>
<td>Black</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>32 (0.81)</td>
<td>9.5 (323)</td>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>3*</td>
<td>TB631</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GM731</td>
<td>Clear</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>32 (0.81)</td>
<td>9.5 (323)</td>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>3*</td>
<td>TB731</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Adhesive-backed:** 3M pressure sensitive acrylic for bonding to high and low surface energy materials

**Plain-backed:** washable nylon knit with moderate stretch for sew-on applications

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

* GM731 will turn yellow/brown in sunlight exposure.

#### Purchase trial bag(s) for your application testing

Before investing in production quantities, you can purchase any adhesive-backed materials as rolls or sheets for testing in your application. Two 1" x 15' rolls per bag or six 6" x 7" sheets per bag.

---

**Warranty, Limited Remedy, and Disclaimer:** Many factors beyond 3M’s control and uniquely within user’s knowledge and control can affect the use and performance of a 3M product in a particular application. User is solely responsible for evaluating the 3M product and determining whether it is fit for a particular purpose and suitable for user’s method of application. Unless an additional warranty is specifically stated on the applicable 3M product packaging or product literature, 3M warrants that each 3M product meets the applicable 3M product specification at the time 3M ships the product. 3M MAKES NO OTHER WARRANTIES OR CONDITIONS, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, ANY IMPLIED WARRANTY OR CONDITION OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE OR ANY IMPLIED WARRANTY OR CONDITION ARISING OUT OF A COURSE OF DEALING, CUSTOM OR USAGE OF TRADE. If the 3M product does not conform to this warranty, then the sole and exclusive remedy is, at 3M’s option, replacement of the 3M product or refund of the purchase price.

**Limitation of Liability:** Except where prohibited by law, 3M will not be liable for any loss or damage arising from the 3M product, whether direct, indirect, special, incidental or consequential, regardless of the legal theory asserted, including warranty, contract, negligence or strict liability.

---

**Industrial Adhesives and Tapes Division**

3M Center, Building 225-3S-06
St. Paul, MN 55144-1000
800-362-3550 . 877-369-2923 (Fax)
www.3M.com/gripping

3M is a trademark of 3M Company.

Printed in U.S.A
© 3M 2016. All rights reserved
70-0709-4065-B