

Use

For control of accidental and routine leaks, drips, and spills of oils, lubricants, and other non-aggressive liquids found commonly in industry. The sorbents are designed to help maintain a clean and safe working environment.

Product Description

3M™ Maintenance Sorbents are made from inert, synthetic fibres of polypropylene and polyester. They are available in a wide range of formats and are lightweight and dust-free. They have a high absorption capacity, which minimises the amount of waste for disposal.

Colour

Light grey - darkens when wet as an indication of saturation level

Selection Guide

- **Multiformat:** Combines four formats in one product. It can be used as booms, pillows, sheets, or rolls.
- **Pads:** For use in and around equipment to catch leaks and drips.
- **Minibooms:** Ideal for placing around the base of equipment to contain and control leaks and spills.
- **Minipillows:** High-capacity pillow for use at the source of a leak. Tear-resistant, they can be left in place for long periods.
- **Rolls:** Particularly suitable for covering large areas, rolls can be cut to custom-fit equipment and work surfaces.
- **Coated and Uncoated Rugs:** Absorbent rugs help keep floors clean and safe by absorbing oils and grease from shoes, equipment, and vehicles.

Physical Data

Product number	Size (cm)	No./Case	Case sorbency (litres)
Multiformat			
M-F2001 (M-FL550DD)	12 x 1520 (40)	3	119
Pads			
M-A2002 (M-PD1520DD)	40 x 52	100	142
Rolls			
M-B2001 (M-RL15150DD)	40 x 4600	1	117
M-B2002 (M-RL38150DD)	96 x 4600	1	288
Minipillows			
M-N1001	18 x 38	16	32
Minibooms			
M-M1001	7.6ø x 120	12	45
M-M1002	7.6ø x 240	6	45
M-M1003	7.6ø x 370	4	45
Rug (uncoated)			
M-G1001 (M-RG36300E)	91 x 9100	1	120
Rug (coated)			
M-G1301 (M-RGC36100E)	91 x 3000	1	40

Absorption / Sorbency

The case sorbency quoted in the table is based on the American Standard Test Method (ASTM) F726-81 using a medium viscosity fluid (20 weight motor oil). Another method of measuring absorbent performance is by calculating the sorbency ratio. This is the ratio of liquid weight absorbed to the dry absorbent weight.

$$\text{Sorbency} = \frac{\text{wet weight} - \text{dry weight}}{\text{dry weight}}$$

The sorbency ratio and speed of absorption depend upon the ambient temperature, the polarity of the liquid, its surface tension, and viscosity. For 3M™ Maintenance Sorbents the sorbency ratio is 15-20 for most of the common workplace liquids.

Typical Liquids Absorbed

3M™ Maintenance Sorbents are suitable for absorbing oils, lubricants, petrol cutting fluids, and coolants. They absorb most liquids in the following chemical groups: alcohols, esters, halocarbons, hydrocarbons, silicones.

Liquids	Examples
Coolants / Heat Transfer Fluids	Water, Alcohol, Oils, Glycols
Lubricants	Oils, Water, Silicone Oils
Hydraulic Fluids	Hydraulic Oils, Water, Oil/ Water emulsions
Cutting Oils / Forming Fluids	Oils (mineral, emulsified)
Solvents	Turpentine, Toluene, Xylene, Paraffin
Crankcase Oils	Oils (natural, synthetic)

Limitations of Use

Do not use on aqueous liquids or aggressive liquids: strong acids, caustic oxidisers, or reactive chemicals. In particular, there is a risk of degradation with the following: Oleum, Chlorosulphonic acid, Liquid bromine, Fuming nitric acid, Chromic acid, Sulphuric acid, and Hydrogen peroxide. 3M recommends that a compatibility test be carried out prior to using the absorbent with the liquid concerned. For use in temperatures over 60°C, it is essential that such a compatibility test is made prior to use.

Precautions

3M™ Maintenance Sorbents are not in themselves hazardous products; however, they take on the characteristics of the liquids they absorb. Adequate precautions should be taken when handling or storing hazardous/inflammable materials, and appropriate personal protective equipment should be worn. Users should be informed of the risks incurred in use, storage, and disposal of used sorbents.

Disposal

Dispose of used sorbents only in accordance with local and national regulations. Disposal companies should be consulted for their recommendations. Options may include incineration and landfilling, depending on regulations.

Waste Minimisation

3M recommends that waste streams should, wherever possible, be minimised. Sorbents by 3M promote minimisation by only being a small part of the total waste. In addition, where laws allow, 3M™ Maintenance Sorbents can be disposed of by incineration, yielding less than 0.02% ash (ASTM D-482).

The high energy value of the sorbents (46,000 KJ/kg) is also favourable for incineration and waste-to-fuel systems.

Furthermore, sorbents by 3M may be wrung out and reused (90% recovery using mechanical wringing according to ASTM F726-81). The recovered liquid may itself then be reused or disposed of.

Flammability

3M™ Maintenance Sorbents have been tested by an independent test house for flammability characteristics. Tests were carried out on long-term storage, heat build-up, and ignition from three sources: spark, flame, and cigarette using oil and diesel at 0%, 50% and 100% saturation levels. Tests were compared to testing on clay granules and sawdust. The results, which are available in a full report, can be summarised: "3M™ Maintenance Sorbents take on the properties of the liquid absorbed and do not present a greatly increased flammability hazard over other common absorbents. No heat build-up occurs in long-term storage".

Health and Safety

When handling any chemical products, read the manufacturer's container labels and the Safety Data Sheets (SDS) for important health, safety, and environmental information.

[Follow the link to obtain SDS sheets for 3M products on 3M.com/SDS.](#)

[Follow the link to obtain information about substances of very high concern \(SVHC\).](#)

IMPORTANT!

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

Warranty Information

Limited Remedy

This bulletin provides technical information only.

3M recommended product end uses are listed in each 3M product bulletin. End uses not listed in the applicable 3M Product Bulletins are typically not eligible for 3M Warranties. For non-recommended and/or non-warranted end uses or applications, users must test and approve the end uses or applications, assume any associated risks, and acknowledge that 3M has no liability for such end uses or applications. Please contact your 3M representative with any questions about applications, end uses, and warranties.

Limitations of liability

All questions of warranty and liability relating to this product are governed by the terms and conditions of the sale, subject, where applicable, to the prevailing law.

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