3M™ Kind Removal Silicone Tape
Commonly Asked Questions

Benefits of Silicone Adhesive

How are silicone adhesives different from traditional acrylate and rubber based adhesives?
Silicone adhesives are different from traditional acrylate and rubber based adhesive products in a number of ways. Key differences include the following:
• Constant level of adhesive strength over time
• Reduced skin cell stripping and hair pulling at removal
• Little to no residue is left on the skin at removal

Why can silicone-based adhesives be repositioned?
3M Kind Removal Silicone Tape adhesive is atraumatic when removed, meaning minimal skin cells stripped or hairs pulled out. As a result, the adhesive surface remains clean and tacky even after it has been removed from skin. Traditional adhesives can strip skin cells and pull out hair when they are removed so the adhesive surface is covered with debris from the skin and thus no longer tacky.

Skin Trauma Risk Factors

Why does skin trauma occur?
There are many different types of skin trauma associated with medical tape use. Skin trauma occurs for a wide variety of reasons related to the patient, the product and the treatment being delivered.

Factors that affect incidence of skin trauma:
• patient age
• patient skin condition
• co-morbidities
• medications being used
• use of products such as skin preps, cleansers, topical medications and other materials
• use of medical adhesive products

Factors that can lead to adhesive-related trauma may include:
• tape selection
• application or removal technique
• adhesive residue left on the skin after tape is removed
• number of repeat applications and removals

3M Kind Removal Silicone Tape is designed to reduce the risks of skin trauma associated with medical tapes.

Tape Characteristics

Is 3M Kind Removal Silicone Tape hypoallergenic and latex free?
Yes. 3M Kind Removal Silicone Tape is hypoallergenic and does not contain natural rubber latex in the product or packaging.
Is 3M Kind Removal Silicone Tape breathable?
Yes. Moisture can pass through the 3M Kind Removal Silicone Tape and it is a water resistant tape; it is not occlusive.

Does 3M Kind Removal Silicone Tape stretch?
No. 3M Kind Removal Silicone Tape does not stretch.

Why do long-rolls of 3M Kind Removal Silicone Tape come with edge-protectors but short rolls do not?
Longer rolls used across multiple patients are more likely to pick up debris on the edges as they are moved around and handled. This makes edge-protectors an important feature for maintaining a neat, clean appearance over time. To reduce waste and keep costs down, single patient use rolls, which are less likely to pick up debris, do not have edge-protectors.

Does 3M Kind Removal Silicone Tape contain DEHP (phthalates)?
DEHP (phthalates) are not used in the manufacture of 3M Kind Removal Silicone Tape.

Does 3M Kind Removal Silicone Tape contain gluten?
No.

Is 3M Kind Removal Silicone Tape radiotransparent?
Yes. 3M Kind Removal Silicone Tape is radiotransparent and no metals are used in the adhesive or backing.

Is 3M Kind Removal Silicone Tape recommended for NG/ET tubes?
Studies have not evaluated 3M Kind Removal Silicone Tape for use as primary securement of critical tubing. 3M does not recommend it for this use. Clinical judgment is needed when making decisions about patient care.

Applications

Can 3M Kind Removal Silicone Tape be used by people who are allergic to medical tapes?
3M Kind Removal Silicone Tape is hypoallergenic. It has a silicone-based adhesive technology that is chemically inert and chemically different from traditional adhesive products. As a result, allergies are extremely rare. In fact, silicone has been used in cosmetic and other skin and hair products for many years and shows little propensity for causing allergic reactions.

Can 3M Kind Removal Silicone Tape be used with skin preps or barrier films?
Protective barrier films and other skin preps are not needed to prevent skin damage or pain upon removal of 3M Kind Removal Silicone Tape. However, if desired, protective barrier films may be used to protect skin against moisture or for other purposes. Ensure the protective barrier film is completely dry before applying the tape. There is no degradation in performance or other negative consequences to using these skin prep products with this tape. 3M™ Cavilon™ No Sting Barrier Film and 3M Kind Removal Silicone Tape may be used together.

Is 3M Kind Removal Silicone Tape safe for use on infants and children?
Yes, clinical testing demonstrates that 3M Kind Removal Silicone Tape is safe for use on infants and children.
Can 3M Kind Removal Silicone Tape be used when moisture is present?
Yes. 3M Kind Removal Silicone Tape is moisture resistant. Like other silicone adhesives, it does have higher securement when dry. In extreme moisture conditions, a traditional acrylate tape may be a better choice. 3M Kind Removal Silicone Tape is categorized as a water resistant tape for reimbursement purposes.

Can patients shower while wearing 3M Kind Removal Silicone Tape?
Clinical testing demonstrates that patients can shower while wearing 3M Kind Removal Silicone Tape.

Is 3M Kind Removal Silicone Tape safe for use over eyes?
In testing, 3M Kind Removal Silicone Tape was found to be non-irritating to the ocular tissue.

Does 3M have recommendations for use?
3M Kind Removal Silicone Tape is ideal when seeking to protect skin health and barrier function with reliable, consistent securement. It is especially beneficial for patients with sensitive, compromised or at-risk skin or who may require repeat taping to anchor dressings or secure light weight tubing.

Studies have not evaluated 3M Kind Removal Silicone Tape for use as primary securement of critical tubing. 3M does not recommend it for this use. Clinical judgment is needed when making decisions about patient care. Considerations when selecting any medical tape may include:
- Activity level of the patient and location of tape
- Fragility of the skin involved
- Type of application / treatment being delivered
- Properties of the tape including adhesive and backing qualities

Storage and Shelf Life

How should 3M Kind Removal Silicone Tape be stored?
3M recommends that 3M medical tapes be stored under normal conditions within the temperature range of 59–86°F (15–30°C). 3M Kind Removal Silicone Tape has a recommended shelf life of two (2) years under these conditions.

Why does 3M Kind Removal Silicone Tape have an expiration date and what happens when the tape expires?
Although an expiration date is not required for surgical tapes in the U.S., an expiration date is required by a number of other countries. You might think of it as a "best quality if used by...." date. In general, we do not expect changes in performance shortly after the expiration date, but 3M ensures performance within that time frame. The recommended shelf life for 3M Kind Removal Silicone Tape is 2 years under normal storage conditions.
**Medical Tape Techniques**

**Is there a special technique required to apply and remove 3M Kind Removal Silicone Tape?**

3M Kind Removal Silicone Tape does not require any special work-around techniques or extra steps, but standard medical tape application and removal technique are recommended to ensure the best results.

- Basic application: apply the tape to clean, dry skin without tension and gently but firmly stroke the surface to maximize adhesion.
- Basic removal: pull the tape from the skin low and slow back over itself in the direction of hair-growth, supporting the skin as the tape is removed.
- For more tape application and removal training, refer to our website.

**How can I ensure good adhesion and stable fixation?**

- Most adhesives stick best to clean, dry surfaces so minimize moist conditions as much as possible
  - Remove substances that contain emollients or oils, such as lotions and adhesive removers
  - If the skin is very oily, use a mild soap and water to remove the excess oil and pat dry; an alcohol wipe may also be used, but since it is very drying, it should be used with care
  - If you are using a prep solution, let it dry completely before applying the tape
- Avoid touching the sticky surface of the tape
- Apply sufficient pressure to the tape to get the adhesive into the contour of the skin
- Cover adequate surface area so that the tape can support the tubing or dressing
- Obtain full contact between the tape and the skin or tubing so that moisture cannot seep between the two and loosen the tape
- When securing tubes, a chevron will increase/ensure securement by reducing shearing forces
- You may wish to remove hair to achieve more adhesive contact with the skin

**For More Information**

Contact your 3M Health Care Sales Representative or call the 3M Health Care Customer. Outside the United States and Canada, please call your local subsidiary.

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These products can be ordered from your local distributor.