

What is Acrylic Tape?

Acrylic tape is ideal when you need an adhesive that can withstand a wider range of temperatures. Acrylic tape is also the best choice when it comes to working in spaces that have low or high humidity, as well as exposure to sunlight. What other benefits are there to choosing acrylic tape?

- Won't discolor or lose clarity overtime.
- It's resistant to UV lights.
- It has a longer shelf life.
- The seal strength improves over time.
- It's considered the more economical option.
- Performs well in temperatures ranging from 32°F - 140°F

What is Hot Melt Tape?

Hot melt is a thermoplastic adhesive. It exhibits a significantly higher adhesion, which means it possesses superior holding power.

Whenever someone mentions an adhesives holding power, they're referring to its "shear value" or "tensile strength." Some scenarios in which holt melt tape would be the better choice would be when machines are doing the sealing, the package is overfilled, or the composition of the packaging used has a higher degree of recycled content. What other benefits are there to choosing hot melt tape?

- It is more consistent and easier to release.
- It has a great initial tack.
- Performs well in temperature ranging from 45°F - 120°F
- Ideal if your box's major flaps have heavy memory.

What to Consider When Selecting a Tape?

Don't just choose a tape because it's the "less expensive" option or because "all tape is the same;" we can assure you that taking some time to make the right decision now will save you from more than a couple of headaches down the road. So, here are the three factors that you need to keep in mind when selecting an adhesive,

1. Shear Value
 - a. Your tape must be able to handle the stress that your package is going to deal with during shipping; in addition, if your packages are going to be stored for extended periods of time, the last thing you need is tape that's going to lose its adhesion.

2. Application Environment

- a. What kind of environment are you sealing packages in? Are you dealing with condensation and humidity, extreme heat or cold, maybe even dust? These are all factors that need to be taken into consideration because it could make the difference between your tape adhering or not.

3. How is it Being Applied?

- a. Tapes react differently when you're sealing packages by hand or using a machine, so you need to choose the one that'll help your application process run the smoothest. The last thing you want is your applicator struggling with tape that just isn't the right fit.

When in doubt about which tape would be the best fit for your operation, don't hesitate to reach out; our experts are here to make sure that you're coding and packaging processes are running as efficiently as they should be.

Tape Characteristics	Acrylic	Hot Melt
Service Temperature Range	32f to 140f (0c to 60c)	45f to 120f (7c to 49c)
Quick Tack		✓
Usage in Extreme Temperatures	✓	
Will Not Discolor Over Time	✓	
Consistent & Easy Release		✓
UV Light Resistant		✓
Shelf Life	1-2 Years	2 Years +
High Shear		✓