



Metallized Polyester Material

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DESCRIPTION

Gerber's Metallized Polyester materials are dimensionally stable films that resist tearing, abrasion and heat. These are polyester-based, 3 mil films with a mirror look on both sides of the material for two sided interior and limited exterior use. These specific products are not Edge Ready or Image Ready. Comes in Brushed Aluminum and Shiny Silver. Each has a one-to-two-year life.

INTENDED APPLICATIONS

Gerber's Metallized Polyester materials are ideally suited for a wide variety of commercial and industrial applications in which durability, heat resistance and dimensional stability are required. Both materials will provide a metallized look to graphics, signs, labels, nameplates, plaques, and vehicles.

These films should be applied to flat surfaces that are clean and dry.

APPLICATION TECHNIQUES

Dry application methods should be used with Metallized Polyester and panels should be butted.

SUBSTRATE PREPARATION

Before applying your graphic, wash the surface of your substrate with warm water and detergent. Do not use soaps or other cleaners with lotions or creams as they will leave a residue. Thoroughly rinse the surface and allow it to completely dry.

Saturate a clean paper towel with a solvent-based cleaner and wipe the substrate surface. Be certain to follow all manufacturer safety guidelines when using any solvent. Dry the surface with a lint-free paper towel before the solvent evaporates.

If applying to glass, solvent wipe the surface with a 2 to 1 mixture of water and isopropyl alcohol. Glass temperatures can vary across the surface. These temperature variations can produce stresses which may cause the glass to break. Use caution when applying to glass.

Some polycarbonate substrates may weaken when certain vinyl films are applied to them. Because of this possibility, the user will need to determine if safety items such as helmets, safety shields, and some windshields are compatible with their vinyl's adhesive.

Many paint systems (e.g. two-part urethane) and some polycarbonate substrates will outgas if they are not fully cured. Outgassing can cause permanent bubbling in most films; substrates should be tested for outgassing prior to final application.

PERFORMANCE LIFE (UNPRINTED)

Brushed Aluminum and Shiny Silver metallized polyesters have one-to-two-year exterior durability when applied vertically.

Performance statements are based upon field experience and exposure tests conducted throughout the United States. Substrate selection, exposure angle, environmental conditions, and maintenance of markings will affect actual performance. Continuous exposure in regions that experience maximum sunny days will result in decreased performance. Extreme temperature cycling over a short time may result in film cracking. This product is not recommended for horizontal applications.

CUTTING

Gerber Metallized Polyesters can be cut on any **15" OMEGA™ compatible plotter**. A **30° SuperSharp blade** is recommended. Plotters can be set to full speed.

PROTECTING GRAPHICS

Gerber Scientific Products, Inc. offers several products that are designed to protect vinyl and printed graphics.

Gerber UVGuard G5 is a high gloss graffiti-resistant 1 mil, clear, polyester laminating film designed to further expand the resistance to weathering of graphics cut from Gerber Metallized Polyesters. Graphics cut and applied under normal conditions may not require the additional application of Gerber UVGuard G5.

Gerber UVGuard 9 is a glossy 1 mil, clear, polyvinylfluoride laminating film designed to further expand the resistance to weathering of graphics cut from Gerber Metallized Polyesters. Gerber UVGuard 9 has the highest protection from UV fade. Graphics cut and applied under normal conditions may not require the additional application of Gerber UVGuard 9.

SHELF LIFE AND STORAGE

Apply film within one year of receipt. Cut graphics should also be applied within one year. Film and cut graphics (with or without premask) should be kept in a clean area free from excessive moisture and direct sunlight. Maintain temperature at 70° F (21°C) and humidity at 50%.

Use a paper interleaf between layers of stacked or rolled materials.

MAINTENANCE

To clean Metallized Polyester graphics, use a mild, non-abrasive soap with a soft cloth or sponge. Avoid using alcohol-based cleansers or soaps containing grit or abrasives.

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

Thickness	3 mil (See Description)
Film Color	Brushed Aluminum and Shiny Silver
Adhesive	Clear permanent acrylic
Adhesive Color	Clear
Liner	90# StaFlat
Tensile Strength	N/A
Elongation	N/A
Dimensional Stability	<0.015"
Minimum Application Temperature	60°F (16°C)
Removal Temp	N/A

CHEMICAL RESISTANCE (UNPRINTED)

Chemical Agent	Result
Household cleaners	No effect
Mild acids	No effect
Motor oil	No effect
Water	No Effect

RELATED LITERATURE

UV Guard G5 and UV Guard 9 Product Bulletins.

For help with questions concerning Gerber products, please call your distributor or Gerber Customer Service at 1-800-222-7446 or (860)643-1515.

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