



# Gerber U.L.<sup>®</sup> Recognized Label Stocks

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## DESCRIPTION

Gerber Label Stocks are dimensionally stable, polyester-based films that resist tearing, abrasion and heat. They have been formulated for use with Gerber Digital Color Printing Systems and GerberColor™ foils\*. They are backed with a 90# lay-flat liner and coated with a high-performance acrylic adhesive.

The U.L. recognized Gerber Label Stocks are available 1 or 2-mil Clear, White, and Brushed Silver, Brushed Gold, and 2-mil Matte Silver for interior or exterior applications. Brushed Gold Label stock is for interior applications only.

## INTENDED APPLICATIONS

Gerber Label Stocks are ideally suited for a wide variety of commercial and industrial label applications in which durability, heat resistance and dimensional stability are required.

These films are not intended for backlit or vehicle applications. They should be applied to flat surfaces that are clean and dry.

## APPLICATION TECHNIQUES

Dry application methods should be used with Gerber Label Stocks and panels should be butted.

Gerber standard tack application tape is required for all graphics produced with Gerber Digital Color Printing Systems.

## 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)**

Gerber Label Stocks (White, clear, Brushed Silver, and matte silver) have two-year exterior durability when applied vertically. Brushed Gold Label stock is for interior applications only.

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.

## **PRINTING**

If your software material selection palette does not have Gerber Label Stocks, use Gerber Series 220 or Scotchcal™ 220 normal print settings.

GerberColor Spot (GCS) Series, GerberColor Process (GCP) SUPER CMYK™ Series, GerberColor Medal (GCM) Series and GerberColor Transparent (GCT) Series Foils can be used to print onto Gerber Label Stock. If your application requires a U.L. recognized component construction, be certain to use only the GerberColor series that have the following U.L. recognition sticker:



## **CUTTING**

Gerber Label Stocks can be cut on any 15" GRAPHIX ADVANTAGE® compatible plotter. A 30° SuperSharp blade is recommended. Plotters can be set to full speed.

## **PROTECTING GRAPHICS**

Abrasion Guard SPF™ is a clear, top-coat GerberColor Foil designed to protect graphics from moderate contact or handling and from moderate UV exposure.

## **SHELF LIFE AND STORAGE**

Apply film within one year of receipt. Printed graphics should also be applied within one year. Film and printed 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 printed materials. Do not stack printed graphics face to face.

## MAINTENANCE

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

## U.L. RECOGNITION

Gerber Label Stock has been recognized for use by Underwriters Laboratories, Inc.® on several different types of substrates through differing temperature extremes. The specific information is available through Gerber Scientific Products, Inc. (part number P62159B). The U.L. file number is MH25192.

## PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

Thickness	1 or 2-mil (See Description)
Film Color	Clear, white, matte silver, Brushed Gold, and Brushed Silver
Adhesive	Pressure Sensitive acrylic
Adhesive Color	Clear
Liner	90# lay flat
Tensile Strength	N/A
Elongation	0
Dimensional Stability	No measurable shrinkage
Application Temp	32°F to 100°F (0°C to 38°C)
Service Temp	-20°F to 257°F (-29°C to 125°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

GerberColor Spot (GCS) Series, GerberColor Process (GCP) SUPER CMYK Series, GerberColor Medal (GCM) Series, GerberColor Transparent (GCT) Series, and Gerber Guard, and Abrasion Guard SPF (GerberColor Finishing GCF) 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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\* Gerber Scientific Products provides four polyester materials that have not been formulated for use with Gerber Digital Imaging Systems. These products are: Shiny Gold (with silver backing or with gold backing), Brushed Aluminum, and Shiny Silver. These specific products are not EDGE READY or IMAGE READY.

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