



GERBER ImagePerfect™ EZ GUARD Liquid Overlamine (IP28501)

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DESCRIPTION

GERBER EZ GUARD is a liquid overlamine designed for a variety of applications. This non-yellowing formulation is ideal for the protection of graphics from UV exposure and moderate abrasion / handling. It also provides graphics with excellent water and chemical resistance. The high gloss finish of this product enhances the visual appearance of the printed graphic.

INTENDED APPLICATIONS

GERBER EZ GUARD is ideally suited as a protective overlamine for digital graphics printed on a wide range of materials using GerberColor™ Foils, GERBER SOLARA™ UV Inks, Gerber Eco + Inks and GERBER ELAN Solvent Inks. Because GERBER EZ GUARD is highly flexible, it is suitable for applications on compound curves, corrugations or over rivets. (Press carefully over rivets, a rivet brush is not recommended.)

This product is NOT recommended for horizontal applications, floor graphics, and underwater applications (pool/boat). GERBER EZ GUARD is not recommended in applications that require vandal resistance. If the liquid laminate beads up when applied and does not wet out, it is incompatible with the material/substrate it is being applied to.

If applying to products that experience high plasticizer migration, please clean the surface thoroughly with isopropyl alcohol.

Consult individual base material product bulletins for more information on final surface selection.

NOTE: It is the user's obligation to determine whether this product is suitable for the particular use and specific method of application. Always test substrates before use. Actual performance will be affected by substrate selection, substrate preparation, maintenance of the markings, and exposure conditions. Continuous exposure in regions that experience maximum sunny days will result in decreased performance.

STORAGE

GERBER EZ GUARD should be stored in a clean area free from excessive moisture, temperature and direct sunlight. Maintain temperature at 55° - 95° F (13° - 35°C). If product freezes, it should be remixed thoroughly.

CAUTION: Keep container closed when not in use.

WARNING: KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN.

Laminated graphics should be allowed to dry completely for up to 24 hours before rolling or stacking for storage. Use a paper interleaf between layers of stacked or rolled laminated materials. **Do not stack laminated graphics face to face.**

SUBSTRATE/GRAPHIC PREPARATION

Before applying to solvent ink jet graphics, make sure your graphic is clean and that the ink is completely dry. When applying GERBER EZ GUARD to GerberColor or GERBER SOLARA UV ink printed graphics, wait 15 minutes after printing before application. Consult individual base material product bulletins for information on substrate preparation.

CUTTING

Graphics should be cut and weeded prior to lamination. If liquid laminate is applied to cut graphics that have not been weeded, the laminate will bridge the cut lines and not allow weeding afterwards.

APPLICATION TECHNIQUES

GERBER EZ GUARD can be applied using ¼" to 3/8" high quality close nap or high-density white foam rollers (black rollers should not be used). It can also be applied using a dedicated, Teflon coated or stainless steel HVLP spray gun with a 1.4 mm tip. Gloves are recommended for all applications. Application should be done on a horizontal surface - vertical applications are not recommended.

GERBER EZ GUARD can be diluted for use in liquid laminating equipment. We recommend 3 parts of clear to 1 part water. It should be mixed in using an electric mixer with a paint mixing blade commonly purchased at a home improvement center. Refer to the Owner's Guide for your laminator for more information.

It is the user's obligation to determine whether this product is suitable for the particular use and specific method of application. Always test substrates before use. Actual performance will be affected by substrate selection, substrate preparation, maintenance of the markings, and exposure conditions. Continuous exposure in regions that experience maximum sunny days will result in decreased performance.

When applying GERBER EZ GUARD to GerberColor or GERBER SOLARA UV ink printed graphics, wait 15 minutes after printing before application. When applying to solvent ink jet printed graphics, always make sure the ink on the graphic is dry before applying GERBER EZ GUARD (Gerber recommends waiting at least 24 hours after printing before applying the overlamine). Good general ventilation is required for application. This can be achieved by running a fan during and after application.

Some coated and banner materials can experience minor outgassing during lamination, leaving air bubbles trapped in the laminate. Always test substrate before application. If outgassing is detected, apply a very thin coat of laminate to the graphic, allow to dry, and then apply a thicker second coat – this minimizes trapped air bubbles in the finish.

When applying to materials that have a paper backing, tape down the edges of the materials to prevent curling when the liquid overlaminates is applied.

ROLL APPLICATION

1. Apply to clean, dry graphics, at temperatures above 55° F (13° C).

CAUTION: If applied at too low at temperature, the laminate may not dry completely clear and will be brittle.

2. Pour GERBER EZ GUARD into a paint tray. If desired, product can be thinned by adding up to 3 ounces of water per 4 liter bottle.
3. Saturate the entire roller with laminate and let excess drip back into pan – do not use pressure while loading the roller as pressure may force air into the roller and introduce air bubbles in the laminate as it is applied.

TIP: For larger graphics, place graphic on a clean floor and pour a 2" bead of liquid across one side of the graphic. Use a roller with an extension pole to apply the laminate.

4. Start at one side, just off the edge of the graphic and push the laminate toward the top of the graphic in a vertical motion – do not use pressure when applying as this can push and trap air bubbles in the laminate.
5. At the top, turn the roller slightly and push the liquid towards the bottom of the graphic overlapping the previous swipe by approximately 25%.

NOTE: The liquid will have an irregular surface but will wet out and level as it dries.

6. Do not lift the roller from the graphic surface except to reload with laminate (high density foam rollers do not hold as much liquid and need to be reloaded more often).
7. Reload the roller and repeat from left to right in a horizontal motion.
8. One coat is sufficient for most applications (two coats are recommended for most vehicle applications). If an additional coat is required, allow first coat to dry to touch prior to application of a second coat. Dry time varies with temperature, humidity and airflow. At recommended application temperature and humidity, laminate should be dry to recoat in approximately 30 minutes.
9. Be sure to clean roller with warm, soapy water and rinse with plain water immediately after use as GERBER EZ GUARD dries quickly and can be difficult to clean once dry. Unused liquid should be filtered as it is poured back into the original container (paper filters can be purchased in the paint section of most hardware stores or home centers).
10. Laminated prints should be dry to handle in 2-3 hours. Laminated graphics should be allowed to dry completely for 24 hours before applying application tape (avoid high tack tapes), installing, rolling or stacking for storage. Use a paper interleaf between layers of stacked or rolled laminated materials. Do not stack laminated graphics face to face.

SPRAY APPLICATION

WARNING: Vapor or spray mist harmful if inhaled. May cause nose, throat, eye and skin irritation. May be harmful if absorbed through the skin. Intentional misuse by deliberately concentrating and inhaling the contents may be harmful or fatal. Reports have associated repeated and prolonged occupational overexposure to solvents with permanent brain and nervous system damage. Do not breathe vapor or spray mist. For spray applications, wear an appropriate, properly fitted respirator (NIOSH/MSHA approved) during and after application.

Follow respirator manufacturer's directions for respirator use. Avoid contact with eyes, skin and clothing. Goggles and gloves should be worn to protect eyes, skin and clothing.

FIRST AID: In case of eye contact, flush immediately with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes and seek medical attention. For skin, wash thoroughly with soap and water. If affected by inhalation or vapor or spray mist, remove to fresh air. If swallowed, get medical attention.

1. Clean spray gun well with water before use.
2. Make sure that you have 45-50 lbs of constant air pressure at the gun. Air must be clean and dry.
3. Reduce GERBER EZ GUARD with up to 3 ounces of water per 4 liter bottle.
4. Always start the spray off the surface of the graphic.
5. Apply a tack coat by holding the gun 6 to 9" above the surface of the graphic and spraying across and past the graphic you are coating.
6. While off the graphic, move the spray gun down and overlap the previous swipe by 50%.
7. To ensure an even coating, always keep your wrist the same distance from the graphic and move your arm, not your wrist.
8. Repeat until entire graphic is coated using continuous motion – try not to stop.
9. Wait for tack coat to dry (approximately 30 minutes).
10. Apply a second heavier coat using the same process.
11. Laminated prints should be dry to handle in 2-3 hours. Laminated graphics should be allowed to dry completely for up to 24 hours before applying application tape (avoid high tack tapes), installing, or rolling or stacking for storage. Use a paper interleaf between layers of stacked or rolled laminated materials. Do not stack laminated graphics face to face.
12. Be sure to clean spray gun with warm, soapy water and rinse with plain water immediately after use as GERBER EZ GUARD dries quickly and can be difficult to clean once dry. Unused liquid should be filtered as it is poured back into the original container (paper filters can be purchased in the paint section of most hardware stores or home centers).

MAINTAINING LAMINATED GRAPHICS

In general, graphics laminated with GERBER EZ GUARD are smoother, resist dirt buildup, and are generally self-cleaning. However, laminated graphics can be cleaned with soap and water followed by a fresh water rinse if needed.

CAUTION: Do not use isopropyl alcohol or any cleaners, which contain isopropyl alcohol or abrasive elements to clean laminated graphics. Avoid cleaning vehicles with laminated graphics in automated car washes or using a power sprayer.

If graphics become scratched, additional coats of GERBER EZ GUARD can be applied, make sure the graphic is clean and dry and follow application instructions.

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

Viscosity	30-35 seconds (#3 Zahn cup)
Weight per 4 Liter Bottle	8.7– 8.9 lbs.
PH	8.5 – 9.2
Sheen	Gloss
Application Temperature (Optimum)	70° to 80° F (21° to 27° C)*
Application Humidity (Optimum)	50-60%*
Shelf Life	1 year from date of shipment to distributor
Qualified Printers & Ink/Foils (as of 3/21/05)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gerber EDGE®, EDGE 2, EDGE FX, and MAXX 2 w/ GerberColor Foils• GERBER SOLARA UV w/ GERBER SOLARA UV Inks• GERBER ELAN™ XL w/ GERBER ELAN Solvent Inks• Jetster w/ Gerber Eco + Inks

* Lower temperatures slow the dry time and higher temperatures make application more difficult because the overlamine starts to dry too quickly. The optimum application temperature is 70° to 80° F (21° to 27° C) with a relative humidity of 50-60%. Lower relative humidity and higher temperature decrease the dry time. Higher humidity and lower temperature increase dry time. Outside of the optimal application temperature and humidity, application can be more difficult.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For help with questions concerning Gerber products, please call your distributor or Sales Support at 1-800-222-7446 or (860) 643-1515. Or visit us on the web at www.gspinc.com

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