



# Anodization Masking Tape 8985L

## Product Data Sheet

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### Product Description

3M™ Anodization Masking Tape 8985L is a purple printed polyester tape with a rubber adhesive and non-silicone release liner. Designed specifically for masking components that are subjected to anodization bath processes.

### Key Features

- Strong backing provides very good abrasion, tear, scratch, puncture and moisture resistance to help protect surfaces.
- The purple translucent backing allows for visual inspection without tape removal.
- Provides good initial tack and holding strength.
- Rubber adhesive specially formulated to resist the harshest of chemical bath chemistries and provide clean removal when finished.
- Non-silicone adhesive allows use on many parts where subsequent painting or bonding is necessary.
- Non-silicone liner allows for die-cuts.

### Product Construction

|   |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
| Backing                                       | Polyester, purple printed |
| Adhesive                                      | Rubber                    |
| Liner   | Polyester                 |
| Backing Thickness<br>ASTM D3652               | 0.076 mm                  |
| Total Thickness<br>(without Liner) ASTM D3652 | 0.099 mm                  |
| Liner Thickness<br>ASTM D3652                 | 0.051 mm                  |

### Performance Characteristics

|   |                |
|---|----------------|
| Adhesion to Stainless Steel<br>ASTM D3330 | 23 N / 100 mm  |
| Tensile Strength<br>ASTM D3759            | 1234N / 100 mm |
| Elongation at Break<br>ASTM D359          | 126 %          |
| Temperature Use Range                     | Up to 93 °C    |

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## Application Ideas

- Masking during anodization operations.
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## Surface Preparation

Clean surfaces prior to masking, such as alkaline clean and deoxidize.

- Improve masking success by chemfilm surface prior to masking.

## Masking

- Optimal adhesion is obtained when both the tape and intended surface are within a temperature range of 16° to 27 °C.
- To apply the tape, remove a portion of the liner from one end of the tape and firmly tack it down to the surface.

Gently pull liner away from tape at an angle as it is being

applied by hand.

- Once the tape has been applied, firmly apply pressure to improve bond strength to surface. Additional tools (wipers, rollers, etc.) may be needed to achieve proper bond.
- Squeegee out any air bubbles that may be trapped between the tape and the surface. Special attention to masking edges for better sealing from chemicals.

## Removal Techniques

- Allow masking tape to dwell greater than four hours after part processing before removal.

## Plotter Suggestions

- Plotter Test Plot: Imperative to test and verify that the blade cuts all the way through the tape
  - Plotter Pressure: Validate pressures are set to cut through the tape (backing and adhesive) to the liner. Pressure settings may need to be increased depending on the thickness of the product and what material was run on the plotters previously.
  - Blade Angle: 45- or 60-degree angle preferred
  - Blade Adjustment: If the blade is too far into the housing it isn't exposing enough blade to cut through down to the liner. Adjust the blade to expose more in order to cut through the material.
  - Fresh Blade: Blades need to be routinely changed in order to remain sharp to cut through the material correctly.
  - Plotter Maintenance: Routine maintenance should be performed on plotters when inconsistent cuts are observed. (cutter protection strip, blade holder, etc)
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**Storage & Shelf Life**

Store at 16°C – 25 °C and 40-65 % relative humidity in its original packaging material. The product can be stored up to 12 months after production.

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