



# Commercial Grade Reflective Sheeting

Series 3200T

*Meets ASTM Type I*

**Product Bulletin 3200T**

**March 2008**

## Description

3M™ Commercial Grade Reflective Sheeting meets ASTM Type I<sup>1</sup> and is an enclosed lens, pressure sensitive adhesive-coated sheeting with an easy release liner, intended for production of non-critical traffic signs and pressure sensitive stickers.

Sheeting Colors:           3290T White  
                                  3271T Yellow  
                                  3272T Red  
                                  3275T Blue  
                                  3277T Green  
                                  3279T Brown<sup>2</sup>

Adhesive:                    Pressure-sensitive  
Adhesive Color:            Clear  
Application Temperature: 65°F (18°C) minimum  
                                  (sheeting and substrate)

<sup>1</sup>Meets ASTM D4956-05 Type I Class 1

<sup>2</sup>Color fastness and reflectivity data pending

## Fabrication

Letters and characters should be a minimum height of 3 inches with a minimum stroke width of 3/8 inch.

A. Cutting: The sheeting may be hand cut, band sawed, guillotined, cold or hot die cut, and electronically cut.

B. Screen Printing: Use 3M™ Process Colors Series 700 or 990. See appropriate Product Bulletin for more information.

C. Electronic Cutting Machines:  
Users are encouraged to evaluate cutting procedures for their own equipment and shop conditions. However, these general recommendations should be followed to ensure easy handling.

1. There should be enough down force on the knife blade to slightly score the liner. Too little down force will not completely cut through the sheeting and adhesive. Too much down force will cut through the liner, dull the blade and serrate the cut edge.
2. The knife blade should be sharp and clean. If there is adhesive on the blade, wipe it off with mineral spirits or isopropyl alcohol.
3. Sheeting temperature should be at least 65°F (18°C) or higher. If the sheeting temperature is less than 65°F (18°C), allow it to condition at 65°F - 75°F (18°C - 24°C) for at least 24 hours.

Weeding - Weed (remove) the excess sheeting as soon as possible after cutting. After more than 24 hours, the adhesive may flow into the cut areas and make weeding more difficult.

### D. Premasking/Prespacing

1. Premasked Markings: application tape SCPM-3.
2. Prespaced Markings: prespacing tape SCPS-2 or Application Tape SCPM-3.

Refer to Information Folder 1.10, Prespacing and Premasking Instructions for 3M reflective sheeting.

E. Drying Colors: Colors should be dried according to recommendations in the appropriate product bulletin: PB 990, PB 700, and Information Folder 1.8.

## Application

See Information Folder 1.7 for surface preparation and Information Folder 1.4, 1.5 and 1.6 for recommended application procedures.

## Cleaning

Hand wash with sponge, cloth or soft brush using warm water and detergent. Rinse thoroughly. To remove grease, oil, or tar, use cloth moistened with VM&P naphtha or mineral spirits. Avoid excessive rubbing or pressure over screened areas. Then wash with detergent and water and rinse thoroughly.

## Storage

Store in a cool, dry area and use within one year after date of receipt. Store rolls in original shipping carton or suspend horizontally from a rod or pipe through the core. Store sheets flat. (Information Folder 1.11) Store color printed, premasked markings at a temperature below 85°F (29°C). If stored above this temperature, blocking of the premask to the sheeting could occur.

## Shelf Life

Unprinted sheeting may be stored by the fabricator for a period of up to one year and after printing, markings may be stored for an additional period of up to six months. Sheeting and markings must be stored in a clean area, free from excessive moisture and direct sunlight, with ambient temperatures of 85°F (29°C) or less.

## Health and Safety Information

Read all health hazard, precautionary, and first aid statements found in the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS), and/or product label of chemicals prior to handling or use. Also refer to MSDS for information about the volatile organic compound (VOC) content of chemical products. Consult local regulations and authorities for possible restrictions on product VOC content and/or VOC emissions.

## General Performance Considerations

The performance and durability of 3M reflective sheeting will depend upon a number of factors including (but not limited to) substrate selection and preparation, compliance with recommended application procedures, sign placement, geographic area, exposure conditions, atmospheric conditions (e.g. fog, snow, rain), surface deposits (e.g. dirt, dew, frost), maintenance and age.

Commercial grade reflective sheeting can be expected to provide satisfactory performance for 5-7 years when processed with 3M matched component inks and films, depending upon climatic conditions of the installation.

Maximum durability of commercial grade reflective sheeting can be expected in applications subject to vertical exposure on stationary objects when processed and applied to properly prepared aluminum according to 3M recommendations provided in Information Folder 1.7 on Sign Base Preparation.

The user must determine the suitability of any nonmetallic sign backing for its intended use. Applications to unprimed, excessively rough or non-weather-resistant surfaces, or exposure to severe or unusual conditions can shorten the performance of such applications. Signs or stickers that are covered by snow for prolonged periods, such as those in mountainous areas, may also have reduced durability.

## Literature Reference

PB 700	3M™ Process Color Series 700
PB 990	3M™ Process Color Series 990
IF 1.4	Instructions for Operation of the Interstate Squeeze Roll Applicator
IF 1.5	3M™ Reflective Sheeting Hand Application Instructions
IF 1.6	Hand Squeeze Roll Applicators
IF 1.7	Sign Base Surface Preparation for 3M™ Reflective Sheeting Application
IF 1.8	3M™ Series 700, 880, and 990 Process Color instructions for use on 3M™ Reflective Sheetings
IF 1.10	Cutting, Matching, Premasking and Prespacing of 3M™ Reflective Sheetings and Films
IF 1.11	Sign Maintenance Management, for 3M™ Reflective Sheeting

## FOR INFORMATION OR ASSISTANCE

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