



# Polyethylene Protective Tape

## 3173 (Clear)

Technical Data

August, 2004

**Product Description** 3M™ Polyethylene Protective Tape 3173 has a low-tack adhesive system to help provide temporary protection of vinyl and is constructed of a proprietary adhesive that can be used as a vinyl pre-mask.

Construction	Backing	Adhesive	Color	Standard Roll Sizes
	Low-density polyethylene	Acrylic	Clear*	48 in. (1200 mm), 60 in. (1500 mm) and 72 in. (1800 mm) x 1000 ft. (304.8 m) to 5000 ft. (1524 m)

\*Contact your local 3M sales representative for additional information on available colors.

**Typical Physical Properties** **Note: The following technical information and data should be considered representative or typical only and should not be used for specification purposes.**

	Nominal Results	ASTM Test Method
Adhesion to Steel: (oz./in. width)	4	D-3330
Tack Level:	Low	
Tensile Strength: (Break or Yield)	2500 PSI / 1.7 MPA	D-882
Elongation: (Break or Yield)	450%	D-882
Total Tape Thickness:	3.0 mils (0.08 mm)	D-3652

- Features**
- Transparent backing will allow visual inspection without tape removal to help save money on reworks.
  - Elastic backing has excellent conformability for many hand applications with a severe radius to help save money on time and reworks.
  - Proprietary adhesive has compatibility with most vinyls and a variety of substrates.
  - Low-tack adhesive for minimal adhesion buildup and easy removal to help reduce labor costs.

- Application Ideas**
- Automotive - pre-mask, vinyl pinstripping, decals and other lettering.

**Application Techniques** For optimum performance, this tape should be applied and removed at a temperature not less than 60°F (16°C) and avoid prolonged exposure to UV sunlight which may affect the performance of the tape.

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**Storage** Store under normal conditions of 60° to 80°F (16° to 27°C) and 40 to 60% R.H. in the original carton.

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**Shelf Life** To obtain best performance, use this product within 12 months from date of manufacture.

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**For Additional Information** To request additional product information or to arrange for sales assistance, call toll free 1-800-241-2031 or 828-465-3053. Address correspondence to: 3M/PolyMask, 500 Thornburg Dr., P.O. Box 309, Conover, NC 28613. Our fax number is 1-800-672-3038 or 828-465-2404.

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3M Center, Building 21-1W-10, 900 Bush Avenue  
St. Paul, MN 55144-1000  
www.3M.com/protectivetapes



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