

# Taping Tips and Techniques

## Helpful Hints

Always use a Scotch-Blue™ Painter's Tape if the tape will be exposed to direct sunlight. Most masking tapes will bake on the surface, but Scotch-Blue painter's tapes are UV and sunlight resistant. They are designed to stay up for extended periods of time, even on glass.

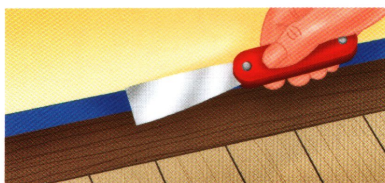
A common problem with painting projects is paint seepage. To avoid this, properly clean the surface, making sure it is dry before taping. Then apply the tape, pressing it down firmly with a putty knife or 5-in-1 tool.

If the paint has not "cured" for at least thirty days, you run the risk of pulling paint off the wall when removing tape. Help reduce the chance of this by using Scotch-Blue painter's tape for delicate surfaces #2080—a tape designed for freshly painted, smooth surfaces. It allows for taping a painted wall after just 24 hours of drying time. (Test before use.)

## Application Methods



**Avoid stretching tape:** Pull tape off roll a few feet at a time and press down a small area without stretching. The tape backing is designed to conform to curved surfaces. If shrinking should occur during spraying or drying, it is desirable to have as much stretch left in the tape as possible.



**Press edge of tape down firmly:** For best paint lines, press firmly on tape with putty knife or 5-in-1 tool.

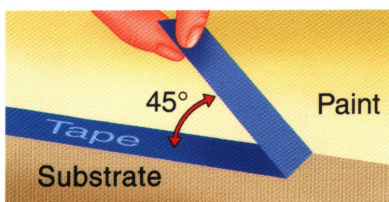
## Irregular Surfaces



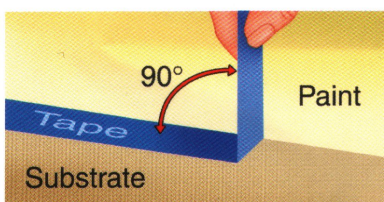
**Lay tape into surface depressions:** If it is stretched and forced down, the tape may lift up or, in some cases, break.

## Removal Methods

**Speed of removal:** Moderate speeds are best. Excessive rate of removal may cause tearing. Very slow rate of removal increases tendency to transfer adhesive.



**Angle of removal:** A 45° angle works best. Remove tape back on itself as shown in illustration.

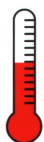


If adhesive begins to transfer, slowly remove tape at a 90° angle.

## Temperature



**Warm:** Increases adhesive transfer possibilities, but less effort is required to remove the tape (>100°F).



**Normal:** Counteracts negative effects of hot and cold removal. The adhesive is firm enough for clean removal, yet is not so firm as to increase adhesion to a point where tearing occurs. Removal temperatures of 50°F–100°F are recommended.



**Cool:** Adhesive is firm and removal is generally clean. However, excessively cold temperatures can cause the tape to become brittle and tear (<50°F).