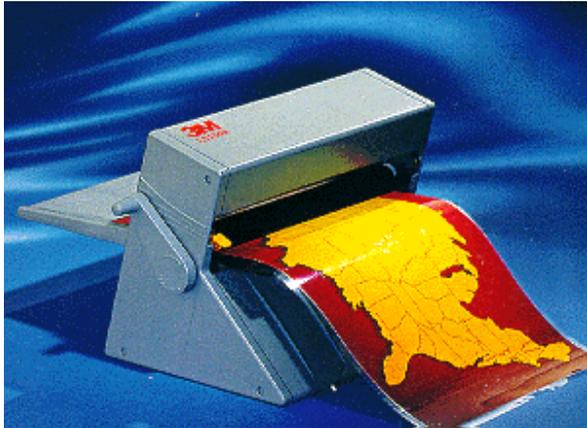


3M Laminating Systems



LS950, LS1000, LS1050 Laminating System Frequently Asked Questions

How long does it take the laminator to warm up?

The 3M laminators do not use a heat process and does not require a warm up period. It is ready to use the moment you need it.

What materials will I need?

All the materials necessary to laminate one or both sides or to attach a transfer adhesive are present in the cartridges sold by 3M. No other materials are needed to laminate any materials you may have. No additional adhesives or glues are required.

How do I change the cartridges?

Remove the input tray by lifting up on the tray and gently pulling outwards. Take out the cartridge by first turning the handle counterclockwise (to remove film from the roller bars), and gently pull cartridge outwards. The cartridges are designed to pull directly out of the back of the laminator. The new or different cartridges simply slide into the same slot. The laminator comes with a cartridge starter to help load the laminating materials into the machine. Place the cartridge starter on the start of the laminating film. To load the new cartridge, feed the cartridge starter between the black roller bars. Press the cartridge into place and advance the film by turning the handle clockwise. Remove the cartridge starter from the output laminate and place back in its holder.

What happens if I experience wrinkles in the laminating material?

Wrinkles are most likely to appear if the film is not properly aligned against each other (i.e. the back and the front side). This most often occurs when a new cartridge is installed or a different type of cartridge is installed. To fix this problem, feed through a scrap item that is thick. A good way to make use of your laminating waste (the wrinkled laminate or article) is to take the film that you have wasted and fold it about 3 times and then feed it through the laminator. This thicker piece should separate the film from each other long enough for the film to realign. If the film is not aligned, try this step once more. 3M compensates for this waste by providing 5-8 extra feet on 50 ft. rolls and 10-12 extra feet on 100 ft. rolls.

How do I cut the laminating material?

The film used to laminate your materials can be cut by any number of cutting devices available in the home or office. While the materials are still on the machine, an integrated cutter blade should be used to slice off the laminated object. This blade is safely tucked away at the outlet of the machine. The film can easily be cut using the blade on the upper cut bar assembly at the outlet of the machine. After removal from the machine, the film may be cut with scissors or any kind of paper cutting device.

Are replacement blades available?

Replacement blades for the sliding cutter are available from 3M.

How does the laminator work?

The 3M Laminators work on a principle of running pressure sensitive clear tape through the set of rubber nip rolls. The material that is to be laminated is passed through the laminator. As it passes through the rubber nip rollers, clear tape is attached to one or both sides of the laminated material. After the laminated product exits the machine, a sliding cutter blade can be used to cut off the laminated piece.

How big is the laminator?

The LS950 is approximately 8 ½ lbs and has a 10 ½” square footprint.

The LS1000 is approximately 10 ½ lbs and has a 10 ½” x 14” footprint.

The LS1050 is approximately 100 lbs and has a 15” x 28” footprint.

In what format is the tape available?

There are currently five different tape cartridges available for the LS950 Laminator. Both a one (SL954) and two (DL951) side film lamination product. In addition, there are three separate adhesive transfer cartridges, one side laminate and opposite side permanent adhesive (LAT952), one side permanent adhesive only (AT953) and one side laminate and opposite side repositionable adhesive (LRA957).

For the LS1000 laminator, there are currently four cartridges available. The dual laminating cartridge, DL1001, the laminate/permanent adhesive transfer cartridge, LAT1002, the permanent adhesive transfer cartridge, AT1003 and the laminate/repositionable adhesive cartridge, LRA1007.

For the LS1050 laminator, there are currently three cartridges available. The Dual laminating cartridge, DL1051, the laminate/permanent adhesive transfer cartridge, LAT1052 and the permanent adhesive transfer cartridge, AT1053.

How thick is the tape film?

The film itself is 2.5 mils thick. The adhesive transfer layer is between 0.05 and 0.1 mils thick.

What is the warranty on the machine?

There is a standard machine warranty of 1 year for parts on the laminator.

Can the laminating film be written on?

The film accepts many different types of writing instrument. Almost anything, with the exception of some water based inks, can be used to write on the film. Also, it will not accept pencil in any form.

How long will the laminators last?

The laminator has very few moving parts. Also, it does not rely on a heated fusing bar to seal the heat pouches as many of the competitive models do. Because it does use a cool lamination process, the machine should deliver many years of service before it needs to be repaired or replaced.

What is the pH of the adhesive?

The pH of a solid can be measured several different ways. Depending on how this is done can affect the outcome of the test. Several accepted ways of measuring the pH of pressure sensitive adhesive place the pH of our product at 5.5-6.0. This type of result indicates an acidic nature to the tape. We cannot claim our tape to be "acid free".

Will the tape yellow, stain the substrate or loose adhesion?

The tapes recommended and sold for use in your laminator have been especially prepared to resist the effects of sunlight, including UV radiation. We are reasonably sure that the tape will not yellow, we cannot guarantee that it will reduce the effect of harmful radiation to any laminated substrate. The adhesion of the film to the material being laminated will remain at a very high level for long periods of time.

Can the laminated products be used for outdoor applications?

Yes. When laminating film is applied to the substrate being laminated, it forms a watertight bond all around the article. A dual laminated article should be protected from most outdoor contaminants.

How thick of an article can be run through the Laminator

The LS950 and LS1000 Laminators will apply dual laminate up to a total thickness of 1/10" and 3/16" for the LS1050.

If the substrate being laminated in the LS950/LS1000 is thicker than 1/10", a trial lamination should be made using something approximately as thick as the original piece. If the trial piece runs through the laminator without any problems, you may proceed with the lamination.

How large a piece can be run through the Laminator?

The LS950 Laminator is designed to laminate up to 8-1/2" wide pieces, LS1000 12-1/4" wide and the LS1050 25" wide. Narrower pieces can be run through the machine with additional waste. The length of article run through the machine is up to the operator. Assuming that the article being laminated is reasonably straight and true, the laminated length could be as great as the total length of the film in the cartridge.

What is the laminating film shelf life?

The shelf life of the laminating film is approximately 2 years after the date of purchase. If the film is stored in the original carton in which it was received, there should not be any problems. If the film is stored, in the laminating cartridge, in direct sunlight, the film could begin to stick to itself more than normal. Excessive storage in sunlight could render the film and adhesive unusable.

Can I laminate photographs?

The 3M Laminators are recommended for photographs. Independent tests have shown that our adhesive will not cause any damage to photographs. We have now received results, from a recently developed colour Photo Activity Test, documenting that both our laminating film and transfer adhesive are permanently suitable for use in direct contact with either the emulsion or backside of black and white or colour photographs.

Can I laminate copies from a colour laser copier or ink jet printer?

Output from ink jet printers can be laminated using the 3M Laminators. It should be noted, however, that some inks are less resistant to sunlight than others. The type of ink used on the original piece could affect the life of the laminated document. It should be noted that the adhesive won't stick to most colour photocopies or laser prints because of the properties of the ink. The appearance of the document may appear cloudy with white blotches.

Is the tape waste recyclable?

The tape waste can be recycled in a polypropylene waste stream if one is available.