

ELECTROSTATIC CHARGES DURING THE APPLICATION OF SELF-ADHESIVE FILMS

What is electrostatic charge?

Electrostatic charge is an unavoidable side effect that appears during the handling of isolated materials such as paper, textiles or plastics. It is created by the energy that is required to move the items during handling. The higher the speed of this movement (friction) the stronger the electrostatic charge.

Electrostatic charges can also be an issue during the application of self-adhesive films. When removing the liner from the self-adhesive film, it gets electrostatically charged. The degree of the charge depends on various factors: Humidity as well as the grounding of materials, persons and used machinery plus the speed of removing the liner play an important role. An electrostatically charged self-adhesive film attracts dust and lint and is more difficult to apply.

Frequently asked questions

How can I reduce and control electrostatic charge during the application of self-adhesive films?

Avoid dust

The ideal environment for the application of self-adhesive films is free of any dust. Clothes should be free of lint. The working area should not be cleaned immediately prior to the application, in order to avoid dust being raised.

Humidity

Dry air increases the danger of an electrostatic charge. To avoid this, use a bowl or a bucket filled with water. The evaporating water ties the dust particles and reduces the electrostatic charge.

Alternatively, prior to the application, use a spray bottle to humidify the air, which will enhance the effect of dust particles being tied.

Grounding

Additionally, the person applying the self-adhesive films can himself be electrostatically charged, making the application more difficult. To discharge, it is helpful to touch a grounded metallic object.

Tips for reducing electrostatic charge when applying self-adhesive films with a laminating machine

When using a laminator at high speed, an above-average electrostatic charge might occur. The following measures can be taken to minimize this effect:

- Grounding the machine
- Using special „anti-static“ tapes which discharge the electrostatic charge
- Increasing the humidity, since dry ambient air cannot dissipate sufficient electrostatic charge

Tips on applications for **ASLAN** whiteboard- and ferrous films

Glossy whiteboard surfaces

- **Whiteboard** ASLAN WB 995
- **Whiteboard Dryapply** ASLAN WBL 995
- **WhiteboardColour** ASLAN WBC 996
- **Clearboard** ASLAN CB 90
- **FerroSoft Whiteboard** ASLAN FF 550

You can use all commercially available whiteboard markers for writing on the films. Letterings can be easily wiped off dryly without leaving any ghosting. We recommend to use a smooth cloth, a sponge or a blackboard wiper. If you used by mistake i.e. a permanent marker you can clean the films with alcohol or white gas for cleaning purposes without leaving any residues.

Matt whiteboard surfaces

- **WhiteboardMatt** ASLAN WB 975
- **ClearboardMatt** ASLAN CB 75
- **EtchedBoard Dryapply** ASLAN EBL 300

You can use all commercially available whiteboard markers for writing on the films. Some of the markers are characterized by a small content of pigments so that it is easier to wipe them off (i.e. Staedler Lumocolor). The writing can be easily wiped off dryly using a microfibre cloth. Alternatively you can use a cleaner with a high alcohol percentage or spirit.

Important

We do not recommend a large-scaled application of whiteboard films with mounting tapes. The writable surface of the film can be damaged by taking off the tape so removability cannot be guaranteed anymore. If it is nevertheless necessary using a mounting tape we recommend a tape with low adhesion. The tape should be taken off from the middle of the material to the edge. . If you used by mistake inappropriate pens i.e. a permanent marker you can clean the films with alcohol or white gas for cleaning purposes without leaving any residues.

Magnetically-receptive ferrous films

- **Ferro** ASLAN FF 400
- **FerroSoft** ASLAN FF 410
- **FerroPrint** ASLAN FF 450
- **FerroSoft Print** ASLAN FF 480
- **FerroSoft Whiteboard** ASLAN FF 550

Important

In order to achieve an ideally adhesive force we recommend you to use strong magnets as i.e. commercial Neodym magnets.

Tips on a how to apply the **ASLAN** Whiteboard- and Ferrous films

Many thanks for choosing our high-quality self-adhesive films

ASLAN's self-adhesive whiteboard, blackboard and ferrous films can be used to turn smooth surfaces into re-writable, dry-wipeable and even magnetic-receptive surfaces. Thanks to the virtually endless variety of options for combining ASLAN self-adhesive films, you can give your creativity free rein and integrate daily changes in restaurants, seminar rooms, meeting rooms, schools, kindergartens, hospitals, surgeries or in your own home.

General instructions on applying our self-adhesive films

Assuming the surface is generally suitable for mounting, you should first clean it thoroughly. Please pay attention to the fact that it must be free from dust, dirt, grease and separating substances. The surface must be dry as well. The length of films can be applied side by side or overlapping, with or without a twin-seam cut.

The length of films should be ideally angled before removing the liner in order to avoid repositioning without liner.

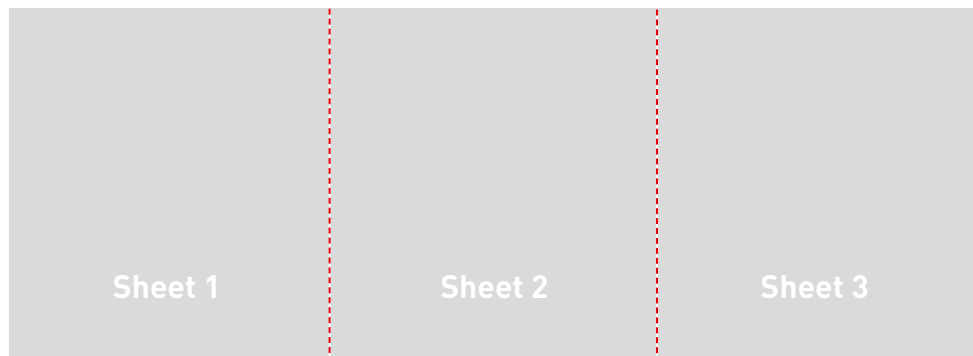
A repositioning without liner can result into a reduced adhesion.

We recommend to apply the ASLAN memo board films horizontally in order to avoid writing on a raw edge, you would have with these vertical appliances. But in general, you can apply the films both horizontally as well as vertically.

Variation of application

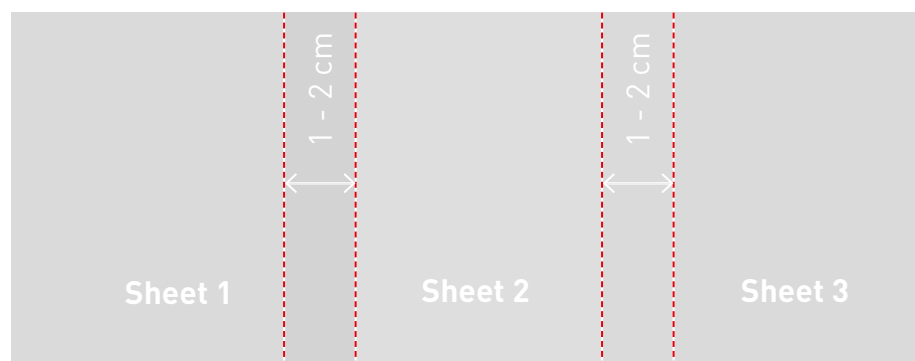
Side by side application

First you place the first length of film. All following sheets have to be applied side by side flush fitting. This application should be used from experienced people or thick materials (as i.e. FerroSoft Whiteboard ASLAN FF 550).

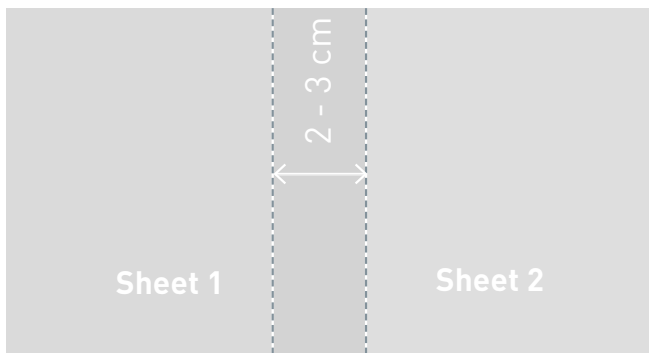


Overlapping application

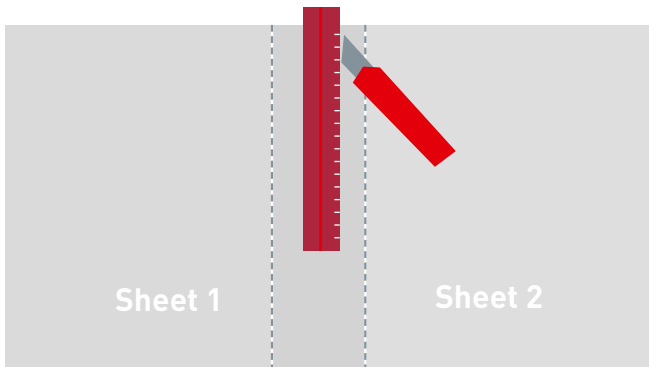
First you place the first sheet/layer of the film. Every other sheet/layer has to be applied with an overlap (approx. 1-2 cm). The overlap remains.



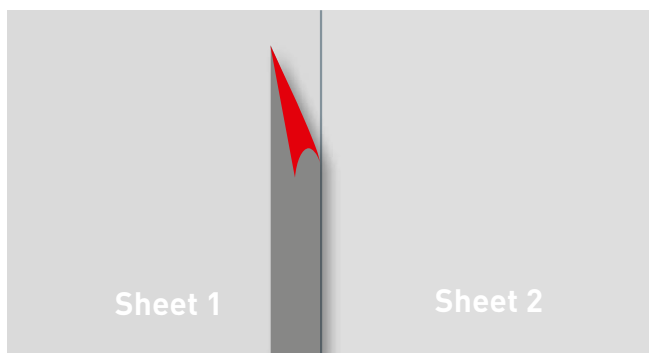
Overlapping application with twin-seam cut



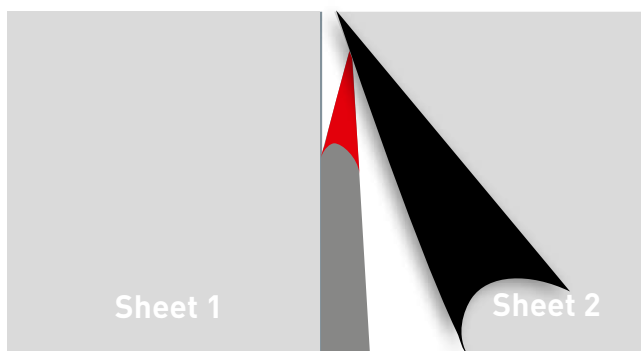
- 1 Concerning the overlapping application with twin-seam cut apply two sheets of films overlapping (approx. 2-3 cm).



- 2 Afterwards cut both sheets approximately in the middle of the overlap using cutter and ruler.



- 3 The next step must be made subsequently in order to avoid high adhesion between the materials.



- 4 Then raise the film from where the strip has been removed from take-off the subjacent strip.

Repeat steps 1-4 (orders 5) for any additional sheet/layer we recommend to rework the whole application with high pressure.