



SOLVE PINHOLING WITH tesa SOFTPRINT® X-HARD

Pinholing and how to solve with tesa Softprint® X-Hard

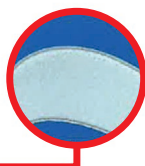
What is pinholing?

A common issue with flexible packaging motifs is the so-called 'pinholing' effect.

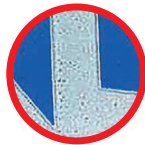
It describes the uneven or incomplete ink distribution when printing a solid area, resulting in a loss of density and a reduced colour vibrancy. Only continuous ink films reflect light evenly and only then does a solid area look appealing to the consumer looking at a package on display in a supermarket shelf.

Why use tesa Softprint® X-Hard?

Pinholing can only be truly solved by optimising the combination of anilox, printing plate and platemounting tapes. However, a platemounting tape with a hard or, preferably very hard foam, provides a firmer support under the solid image of the printing plate thereby improving ink transfer. An additional benefit is that only one lay-down of white ink may be required instead of two, potentially saving time and additional cost.



Perfect ink laydown with tesa Softprint® 'Hard'



Example showing a typical 'pinholing' print defect



tesa Softprint® X-Hard



Using softer foam

tesa Softprint® Foam Hardness Range

X-Soft		Soft		Medium		Medium-Hard		Hard		X-Hard	
Screen 40%	Screen 10%	Screen 40%	Screen 10%	Screen 40%	Screen 10%	Screen 10%	Screen 40%	Screen 40%	Screen 10%	Screen 40%	Screen 10%
Solid	Font neg.	Solid	Font neg.	Solid	Font neg.	Solid	Font neg.	Solid	Font neg.	Solid	Font neg.
alit		alit		alit		alit		alit		alit	