Adhesive expertise for flexographic printing

Full plate mounting assortment and expert consultation for flexible packaging printing

Foam designs and hardnesses

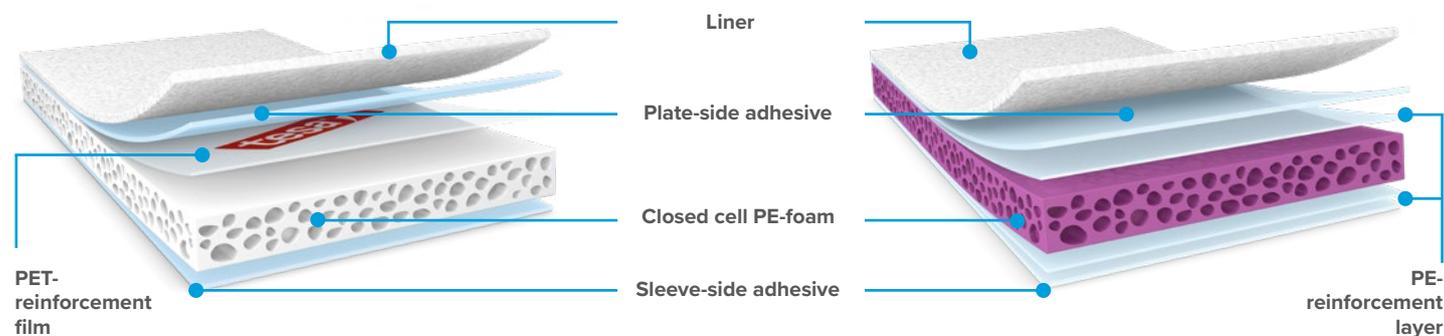## tesa® Softprint Classic or Flex – your choice

Our assortment of tesa® Softprint plate mounting tapes is constantly evolving to fulfill all market needs. Our proven solutions support highest levels of print quality and process efficiency.

tesa® Softprint plate mounting tapes combine advanced adhesive technologies, high-performance foams, and unique liner systems **to give printers exactly what they need**:

- Sharper dots and cleaner highlights
- Stable solids with minimized bounce and chatter
- Controlled impression and superior cushioning
- Reliable handling on press for faster setup

No matter the age or type of equipment, plate, sleeve, or cylinder, you will find the perfect tape for your application in our assortment.

- One of our state-of-the-art adhesives will match your requirements exactly
- Depending on the print motif, one of our tailored foam hardness levels will ensure the best results
- Designed to match all sleeve types and handling needs, tesa® Softprint is available in two product designs: Classic and Flex

Liner

Plate-side adhesive

Closed cell PE-foam

Sleeve-side adhesive

PET-reinforcement film

PE-reinforcement layer

tesa® Softprint Classic
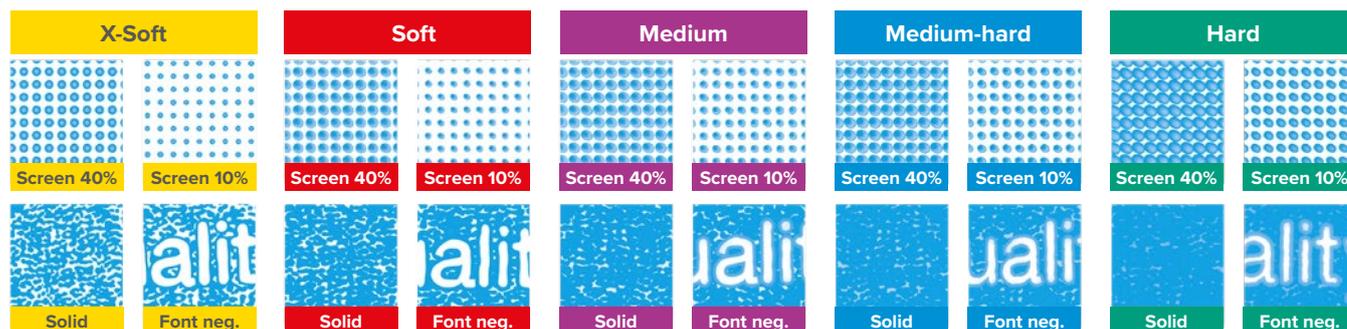- PET-reinforcement film leads to stable dimensional stability and controlled, easy tape demounting.

tesa® Softprint Flex
- Highly conformable design that compensates for sleeve tolerances and supports easy, secure mounting – even on thin-walled or slightly damaged sleeves

Five foams for every print motif

Consistent print quality depends heavily on selecting the appropriate foam characteristics for the specific print job. Controlled compressibility and resilience play a key role in stabilizing the printing process by balancing pressure distribution and plate recovery during impression. By carefully matching foam hardness to the application, printers can optimize tonal reproduction while maintaining reliable solid coverage.

- **Controlled compressibility and resilience:** Engineered foam structures help minimize chatter and dot gain while maintaining strong, consistent solid density throughout the print run.

- **Application guidance:** Softer foams are typically recommended for solids and large tonal areas, while harder foams support fine screens and micro text where higher detail stability is required.

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

Adhesives and liners

Adhesive concept

Flexographic plate mounting tapes with optimized tack levels provide maximum flexibility during the mounting process.

Lower tack adhesives allow easy plate positioning and repositioning, while higher tack levels ensure secure plate fixation and consistent print quality throughout the entire print run.

In addition, different adhesives on the plate-side and sleeve-side enhance performance and handling. The adhesive on each side is specifically designed to match the respective surface, ensuring reliable bonding to both the printing plate and the cylinder or sleeve while enabling clean and efficient plate removal after production.

Liner concept

Efficient mounting processes and reliable handling are critical factors in daily production workflows. Modern liner technologies are designed to support these requirements by improving air release, application control, and overall process stability. Depending on the mounting environment and operator preferences, different liner concepts can provide distinct advantages in terms of handling, transparency, and robustness.

Our liner options represent two proven approaches that support efficient plate mounting while ensuring consistent performance in professional printing environments.

Easy Application (EA) liner: The micro-channel structure facilitates controlled air escape during mounting, enabling faster, smoother plate application. A transparent variant additionally supports quick and reliable hardness identification. The structured liner has a tendency toward a slightly higher adhesive level on the plate-side.

Embossed PP liner: Well-known and established standard liner in the market. Designed for dependable performance in standard workflows, this robust liner ensures stable unwind behavior while maintaining reliable adhesion and clean de-mounting.

Product overview

Ready to look for the right adhesive plate mounting tape for your press? Review our full range of products in our product overview.

Product selection

Find the best tesa® Softprint series for your needs

tesa® Softprint offers a modular assortment designed to match a wide range of printing requirements. The portfolio combines different plate-side adhesives, sleeve-side adhesives, foam hardness level, and liners, allowing flexible configuration depending on the application needs.

Based on this modularity we differentiate four different plate-side adhesive series named **Fast & Efficient (FE), Secure (SC), Total Performance (TP),** and **Strong Tack (ST)**. In combination with our three sleeve-side adhesives, which describes the bonding level toward the sleeves with **light bonding (L), medium bonding (M), and Xtra bonding (X)** we support the individual customer needs depending on the requirements and conditions.

	Light bonding to sleeve	Medium bonding to sleeve	Xtra bonding to sleeve	Product series features
⊕ (Plate demounting force)		ST-M		• High tack adhesive for strong initial plate mounting • Works even in unclean and cold conditions
	TP-L	TP-M	TP-X	• Medium tack adhesive for reliable plate mounting • Very good resistance to edge lifting especially under warm and high humidity conditions • A true all-rounder that works under most conditions
		SC-M	SC-X	• Secure bond – excellent resistance to edge lifting across a broad temperature range • Reliable mounting also at lower temperatures • Works best in clean and standardized conditions
⊖		FE-M	FE-X	• Very low tack adhesive for fast plate mounting and demounting • Excellent plate repositioning • Requires clean and standardized conditions

Bonding to sleeve ⊖ ⟶ ⊕

We recommend our TP-M as an entry-level product. From this starting point, you can easily switch to other products depending on your specific needs.

All recommendations in this overview are based on standard room temperature and clean conditions according to our standard operation procedures (SOPs).

Variations in the conditions may influence the performance and can potentially lead to different product recommendations.

Product selector

To help you get started, we have created the product selector that will help you identify the perfect combination of printing plate and plate mounting tape, which is essential for achieving optimal print results in your operation. Find out which tape suits you best by providing your existing process parameters.
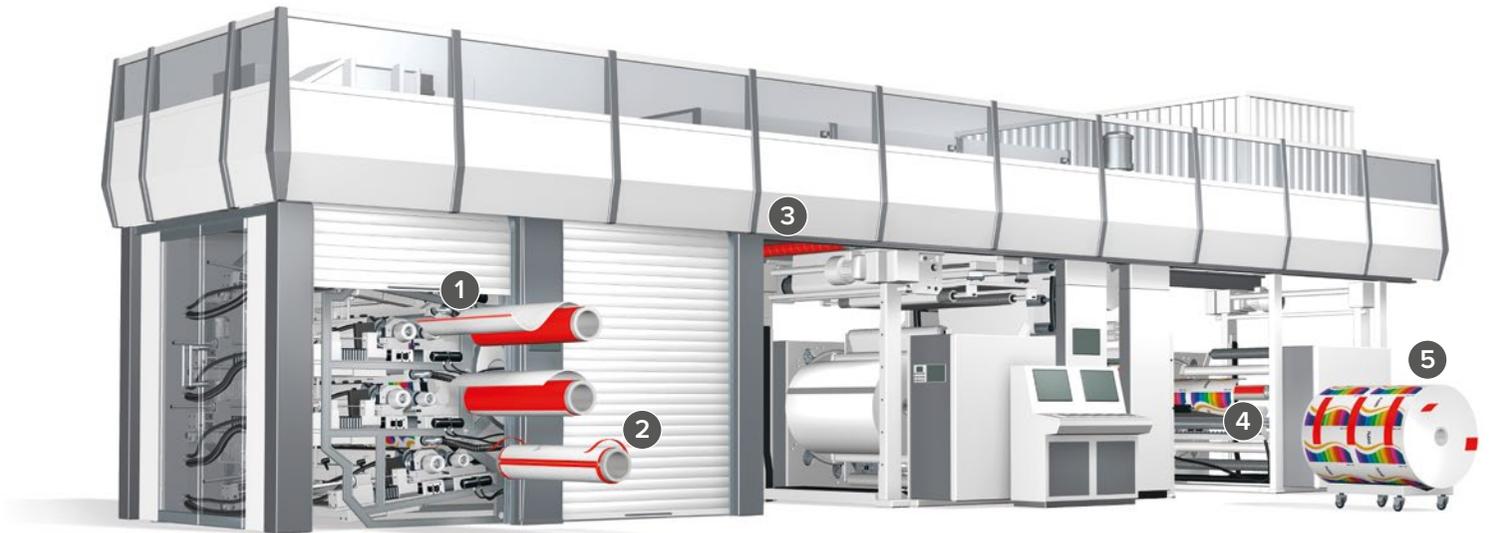
Partnership

We are here to make your jobs run at its best. Working together, we aim for the highest quality, efficiency, and flexibility with our advanced plate mounting tapes and a global team of flexo experts.

Let´s unleash your print potential!

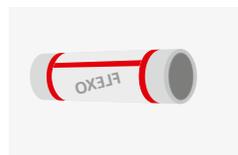# Our complementary products for flexographic printing

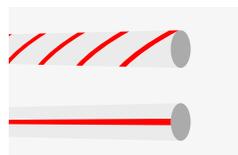| Application	Solution
1 Adhesion promoter	
tesa® 60111/60160	Recommended for all tesa® Softprint products
2 Edge sealing	
tesa® 60404	Single-sided tape for safe bond on a variety of materials
tesa® 4174	Flexible single-sided tape for solvent plates
tesa® 4185	Flexible single-sided tape for solvent plates
3 Roller wrapping	
tesa® Printer's Friend 4863	Anti-slip silicone tape with embossed surface
tesa® Printer's Friend 4563	Anti-slip silicone tape with smooth surface
4 Core starting	
tesa® 60404	Single-sided tape for safe bonding on paper and PE cores
tesa® 51194	Splittable double-sided tape for flying splice labelling
tesa® 51904	Double-sided tape with high tack and adhesion
tesa® 52307	Double-sided tape for easy release
5 Failure flagging & end tabbing	
tesa® 60404	Different tape colors available, safe bond on a variety of materials

Additional tools

tesa® 52064	Plate cleaning roller
tesa® 52065	Rubber mounting roller (standard)

For information on our static and flying splicing solutions please visit **www.tesa.com/print**

Certifications

Our company is focused on international quality, environmental, and occupational safety standards.

Please find more information regarding our certifications at:
www.tesa.com/certifications

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