

Safety Instructions

Tips & Tricks No. 11



Hot melt Safety Advices

Always wear gloves and safety glasses when working at the hotmelt applicator. Consider ear protection if necessary. Always secure loose items such as ties, lan bands, long hair or jackets. Always lift a sack or pail with the correct spine position. It is your back and it can't be replaced!

First Aid Treatment for Hot melt Burns

This information is for advice only. Please ensure that you are familiar with general first aid procedures. If someone is burnt, cool the burnt area immediately with cold water for at least 10 minutes.

First aid for hot melt burns

- ⇒ Cool the burnt area immediately with cold running water. A shower is useful for larger areas.
- ⇒ Continue cooling with water for at least 10 minutes.
- ⇒ Remove rings, bracelets, watches, etc. from the affected area. These may cause tightness or constriction if any swelling occurs.
- ⇒ A cold compress such as a towel soaked in cold water may be soothing over the burnt area. Apply this only after the initial cooling under cold water.

Things not to do

- ⇒ Do not remove the adhesive from the skin. Once the hot melt has cooled, it will not harm the skin. It will in fact protect the burnt area.
- ⇒ Do not prick any blisters.
- ⇒ Do not apply creams, ointments, oils, grease, etc., or put on an adhesive, sticky, or fluffy dressing.

Go straight to a doctor, after cooling with water and first aid, if

- ⇒ The burn has caused the skin to char or turn white. These are known as third degree or deep burns.
- ⇒ The burn has caused the skin to blister, in particular on the face, hands, arms, feet or legs. These are known as second degree or partial burns.
- ⇒ The burn area is larger than the size of the hand of the person affected.

You should place a non-fluffy, non-adhesive material over larger or more serious burns before going to the doctor.

See a doctor or nurse as soon as possible if

- ⇒ The burn becomes infected. Infection causes a spreading redness from the burn which becomes more painful.
- ⇒ You are not up to date with tetanus immunisation.
- ⇒ Blisters occur. You may be happy to deal with small burns with one or two small blisters. However, a blister means a second degree burn, and it may be best to see a doctor or nurse.

Hot Melt Adhesives

Health & Safety

Hot melt adhesives have two main hazards: burns and inhalation of fumes. By ensuring the adhesive is used under the correct conditions and operators take sensible precautions when using hot melt adhesives, the risks of injury are minimised.

To ensure the adhesive is used at optimum conditions, do not exceed the recommended operating temperatures detailed on the product data sheet. Use forced air extraction over the applicator tank to remove the adhesive fumes, ensuring that the performance of the extraction is regularly checked.

To prevent burns, it is important to personal protective equipment, especially when draining or cleaning the system. Recommended equipment includes a sleeved shirt or protective sleeves, protection, heat resistant gloves and safety shoes.

If you would like further information, please contact us.

Water Based Adhesives

Health & Safety

The main hazard from water based adhesives is skin irritation usually occurring on people with sensitive skin. By ensuring the adhesive is used under the correct conditions and operators take sensible precautions when using water based adhesives, the risks are minimised.



To protect the skin, users should wear gloves or barrier creams as repeated contact with the adhesive may cause skin irritation and dryness.



Wear eye protection to avoid the adhesive being splashed into the eyes. If adhesive does get into the eyes, wash with plenty of water. If symptoms persist, get medical assistance.

If you would like further information, please contact us.