3M Science. Applied to Life.™




# 3M™ Fastbond™ Water-Based Aerosol Spray Adhesives

Frequently Asked Questions

## 1 Water Based

### Why Water Based?

Manufacturing managers and business owners have a lot on their plates. From keeping workers safe to driving productivity, there's a great deal at stake. Improved working conditions remain top of mind. That's why 3M created water-based aerosol spray adhesives 1074,1077 and 1090 that are low VOC (volatile organic compounds), and use compressed air as the propellant that works for your employee, and your business.

### Why is low VOC important?

Many manufacturing companies have a requirement to meet certain VOC requirements within their facility. Generally, the highest items within a facility for VOCs are their paint, primers, or solvent adhesives. By reducing their VOCs in other areas (such as converting them to a water-based adhesive) they may achieve lower ratings or perhaps invest in more expensive items like paint.

### Why is the can for water-based aerosols smaller?

3M water-based aerosol spray adhesives are dispensed from a Bag-on-Valve (BoV) aerosol can. The can contains a water-based adhesive, which is separated from the compressed air that acts as the propellant. 3M water-based aerosol spray adhesives are about 50 percent solids. Compared to 3M's traditional aerosol adhesives, with lower solids, the coverage is the same or better for water-based aerosol options without needing the solvent and propellant.

## 2 Actuator

### What is an actuator?

An actuator on an aerosol can is the part you press to release the product inside. It sits on top of the valve stem and controls the flow of the spray when pushed. It is sometimes called "the button".



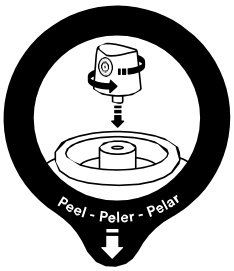

### Why are there 2 actuators included, in a bag, under the cap?

The actuators are not inserted during the manufacturing process to avoid accidental dispensing of the adhesive that may dry and clog the valve, ensuring that the customer does not experience issues when dispensing the adhesive. Depending on your usage criteria, you may only need one actuator per can. We are providing an extra actuator for customers who may not use the adhesive frequently.

# 3 Getting ready to spray

## Why is the valve sealed on the aerosol can?

The valve is sealed on water-based aerosol cans to prevent the adhesive from drying out if it remains in the valve; this seal must be removed before spraying the adhesive, and it should not be punctured.




## How do I put the actuator on?



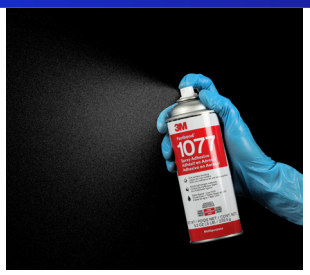

Remove the cap, note the actuators under the cap.




Peel the seal off the top of the can. Do not puncture through the seal, pieces of the seal could clog the valve.




Pointing the actuator away from the user, or other people in the area, gently insert the stem into the valve. Gently rotate the actuator during insertion, if needed.




Begin spraying.

**Scan to watch video**



## What do I do if a run out of actuators?

Actuators may be cleaned by soaking them in a solvent*, or using an adhesive remover product, such as 3M™ Adhesive Remover. You must then clean the residual solvent to prevent the actuator from clogging.

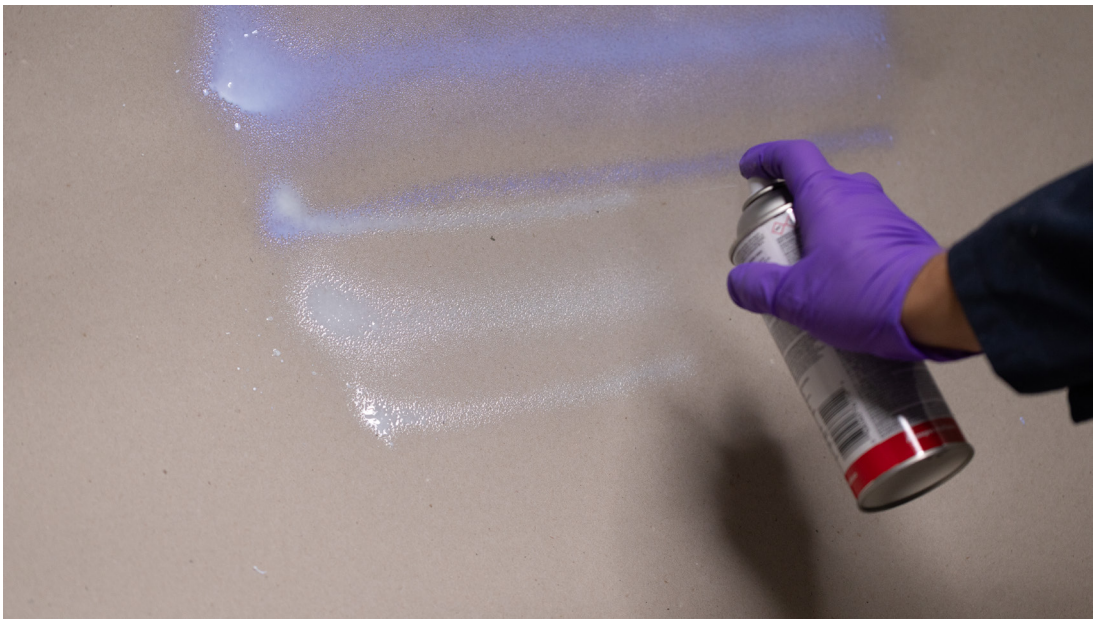
*When using solvents, extinguish all ignition sources, including pilot lights, and follow the manufacturer's precautions and directions for use.

**Review the Safety Data Sheet for precautions of safe handling and always wear proper personal protective equipment for safe use of adhesives.

# 4 Spray and Disposal

## Why am I seeing a striped spray pattern?

Seeing the striped pattern or banding is normal for our water-based aerosol spray adhesives. If you are noticing concentrated areas of spray, you may need to adjust the distance they are spraying the can from the substrate orient the can to decrease the banding appearance. The stripes or banding should decrease as the adhesive is dispensed.





## Why is the spray pattern changing as the adhesive dispenses?

As the adhesive is sprayed, the pressure on the bag will decrease. With this drop in pressure the cause the adhesive to spray out with less force, changing the pattern height and intensity. You may need to adjust your spraying distance to achieve your desired pattern and coverage.

## Can I spray the can in any orientation?

Unlike traditional aerosols with propellants, BoV aerosols can be sprayed at any orientation, even upside-down.




## What do I do when I am not spraying the aerosol can?

For short work stoppages, covering the spray tip is unnecessary. Adhesives may need to be wiped away from the orifice on the actuator.  If the stoppage is more than 10 minutes, cover the spray tip with tape and replace the cap. If unused for an extended period, adhesive may dry, requiring the installation of the second actuator to resume spraying.




## How do I know when to adhere my substrates?

Follow the instructions on the can for proper dry times before making a bond. Some substrates may be able to bond immediately. Test the adhesive on your substrates to make sure you have the appropriate adhesive.

## Can I use activator with these adhesives?

The dry time can be accelerated using 3M Activator. It is important to test your substrates when you are considering this. The water remaining will still need to evaporate.  You may find the use of activator is not needed.

## How do I dispose of these aerosol cans?

Refer to Safety Data Sheet for disposal considerations. Dispose of contents and container in accordance with applicable local, regional, national, and international regulations.

**Product Selection and Use:** Many factors beyond 3M's control and uniquely within user's knowledge and control can affect the use and performance of a 3M product in a particular application. As a result, customer is solely responsible for evaluating the product and determining whether it is appropriate and suitable for customer's application, including conducting a workplace hazard assessment and reviewing all applicable regulations and standards (e.g., OSHA, ANSI, etc.). Failure to properly evaluate, select, and use a 3M product in accordance with all applicable instructions and with appropriate safety equipment, or to meet all applicable safety regulations, may result in injury, sickness, death, and/or harm to property.

**Warranty, Limited Remedy, and Disclaimer:** 3M warrants this tool will be free of defects in workmanship and materials under normal operating conditions for one (1) year from the date of purchase by the initial end-user customer. 3M MAKES NO OTHER WARRANTIES OR CONDITIONS, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, ANY IMPLIED WARRANTY OR CONDITION OF MERCHANTABILITY, FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, OR ARISING OUT OF A COURSE OF DEALING, CUSTOM, OR USAGE OF TRADE. If this tool does not conform to this warranty, then the sole and exclusive remedy is, at 3M's option, replacement or repair of the tool or refund of the purchase price. User must operate the tool in accordance with all applicable instructions, safety precautions, and other procedures stated in the operating manual. 3M will have no obligation to refund the purchase price or to repair or replace any tool or part that fails as a result of normal wear, inadequate or improper maintenance, inadequate cleaning, nonlubrication, improper fluid pressures, improper storage or operating environment, operator error or misuse, alteration or modification, mishandling, lack of reasonable care, or any accidental cause. Warranty claims must be made within one (1) year from the date of the end-user customer's purchase.

**Limitation of Liability:** Except for the limited remedy stated above, and except to the extent prohibited by applicable law, 3M will not be liable for any loss or damage arising from or related to the 3M product, whether direct, indirect, special, incidental, or consequential (including, but not limited to, lost profits or business opportunity), regardless of the legal or equitable theory asserted, including, but not limited to, warranty, contract, negligence, or strict liability.

**Disclaimer:** 3M industrial and occupational products are intended, labeled, and packaged for sale to trained industrial and occupational customers for workplace use. Unless specifically stated otherwise on the applicable product packaging or literature, these products are not intended, labeled, or packaged for sale to or use by consumers (e.g., for home, personal, primary or secondary school, recreational/sporting, or other uses not described in the applicable product packaging or literature), and must be selected and used in compliance with applicable health and safety regulations and standards (e.g., U.S. OSHA, ANSI), as well as all product literature, user instructions, warnings, and other limitations, and the user must take any action required under any recall, field action or other product use notice. Misuse of 3M industrial and occupational products may result in injury, sickness, death, or property damage. For help with product selection and use, consult your on-site safety professional, industrial hygienist, or other subject matter expert. For additional product information, visit www.3M.com

**Industrial Adhesives and Tapes**
Division 3M Center
St. Paul, MN 55144 USA

Phone 1-800-362-3550
Web 3M.com/sprayadhesives

© 3M 2026. All rights reserved. 3M and Fastbond are trademarks of 3M Company.