



Adhesive tapes are sometimes used to protect edges and vulnerable areas of joinery during transport and installation. However, not all tapes are suitable. Some adhesives can mark the coating surface or even have the potential to cause the coating to detach when the tape is removed. Always test the tape on a small, inconspicuous area first and follow the tape manufacturer's recommendations. Protective tape must never be left on glass, factory or site-finished coatings for extended periods.

Extended contact between tape and coated surfaces can result in coating detachment when the tape is removed, as shown in fig. 1 (below). This issue is not caused by poor inter-coat preparation.

Tape Removal

When removing tape, always pull it towards the external edge of the tape and the joinery component. This reduces the stress placed on the coating. This is particularly important on sharper edges or where tape has been applied to protect areas filled with expanding foam; in such cases, the foam may bond to both the tape and the coating, increasing the forces acting on the surface.



Fig. 1

For dual-finish systems, similar care is required. Pulling the tape away from the newer coat reduces the likelihood of damaging the overlapped coating edge.

Coating Performance & Moisture Effects

Modern joinery coating systems (e.g., Teknos Aquatop) provide a flexible, durable, and water-repellent finish which facilitates the natural movement of vapour through the whole coating system. On well-designed and correctly installed joinery, these systems provide long-term protection. However, when protective tapes are applied, especially for extended periods, they can interfere with or even block the natural transfer of vapour. This more commonly occurs during building works when moisture levels are high, and in particular in autumn and winter when low temperatures contribute to increasing the likelihood of dew formation and internal condensation. Using non-breathable protective sheeting further exacerbates. (See: Teknos Site Care & Storage Guide) In such conditions, moisture trapped by the tape may soften or weaken newly applied coatings, leading to reduced inter-coat adhesion. Timber species with higher moisture equilibrium or excessive coating thickness can both worsen this effect.

Important Notes

1. Use only low tack tape and test it first on a small or non-critical component.
2. Do not leave tape on longer than necessary. Remove it immediately after rendering or remedial works. Even leaving tape on overnight can increase the tapes adhesive strength and contribute to coating cohesion interference and inter-coat adhesion. Any affected areas must be repaired and recoated in accordance with Teknos Exterior Maintenance Guidelines to reinstate and maintain product performance and warranty compliance.

For further support and advice, contact Teknos.