



GerberColor™ Special Effects Series (GCX) Fluorescent Foils

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DESCRIPTION

GerberColor Special Effects Series (GCX) Fluorescent Foils are durable, dimensionally stable, resin-based, pigmented foils designed for use with the GERBER EDGE®, GERBER EDGE 2®, and GERBER EDGE FX™ thermal transfer printing systems, in conjunction with EDGE READY™ materials.

Color Name	Pigment Code
Green	GCX – 416
Red – Orange	GCX – 414
Yellow	GCX – 415

INTENDED APPLICATIONS

GCX Fluorescent Foils are intended for use in the production of interior graphics, point-of-purchase displays, warning graphics, or any interior graphics requiring high visibility even in low-light conditions. In addition, GCX Foils can be used for reverse-print, interior second-surface applications. (In reverse-print applications, GCX Foils can be backed with an appropriate GCS, GCT, or GCP Foil.)

Most materials that GCX Foils would be printed on are not intended for use where they may be exposed to petrochemical spillage. If petrochemical contact is anticipated, refer to the PROTECTING GRAPHICS section below. The user should determine the suitability of all substrates.

PERFORMANCE LIFE

GCX Foils are intended for interior use only. Graphics printed with GCX Foils should be applied out of direct sunlight.

SHELF LIFE AND STORAGE

GerberColor Foils, film, and printed graphics (with or without premask) should be kept in a clean area free from excessive moisture and direct sunlight. Store foils at 40°F to 90°F (4°C to 32°C) and 40% to 60% humidity. When not in use, cartridges should be kept in their package sleeves.

PRINTING

Small text or shapes (less than 20 point) should not be printed with GCX Foils. Halftone blends and fades are not recommended applications for GCX Foils.

Lot to lot variations can produce slight visual differences in color output.

Recommended working environment is as follows:

- Operating temperature: 50°F to 95°F / 10°C to 35°C
- Recommended temperature for assured printing accuracy: 68°F to 78°F / 20°C to 26°C
- Operating humidity: 20% to 90% relative humidity, non-condensing (maximum range; actual range varies by material used)

If your software foil selection palette does not include GCX Foils, select a corresponding GerberColor Spot Foil. GCX Foils are compatible with the following EDGE READY materials: Gerber HP Series 220 and 225 manufactured by 3M, Gerber Series 210, Floor Graphics from Gerber, LexEdge™ II, Gerber Vision™ manufactured by 3M, Gerber InstaChange™ manufactured by 3M, Gerber QUANTUM™ Marking Film Series 2000 and 4000, Gerber AutoMag™ II, GerberMag™ II, Gerber Static Cling, Gerber ImageCast™ manufactured by 3M, Gerber ImageCal™ “P”, Gerber ImageCal “R”, Gerber PlastiGraphix™ PVC- 10, and GerberGlow™.

Due to differences in the pigment coating for these colors, GCX Foils are not recommended for creating GerberColor Spectratone™ matches. Foils within the GCX Fluorescent family are compatible with each other and can be combined as overprints to produce other fluorescent colors. Overprint appearance may vary.

GCX Foils are also compatible as the underlayer in overprint combinations with the following GerberColor Series: GerberColor Spot (GCS), GerberColor Process Pro™ CMYK (GCP), GerberColor Transparent (GCT), and GerberColor Finishing (GCF).

PROTECTING GRAPHICS

Gerber Technology offers products that are designed to protect vinyl and printed graphics.

Gerber Guard™ manufactured by 3M is a durable, dimensionally stable, glossy vinyl overlamine. This film has a petrochemical-resistant construction and is intended to be used when markings may be exposed to petrochemical spillage and/or severe handling conditions.

Gerber UVGuard™ is a custom-formulated, 1-mil, clear, TEDLAR polyvinyl fluoride (PVF) laminating film designed to further expand the resistance to weathering of printed graphics up to five years.

Gerber UVGuard™ 9 manufactured by 3M is a 2-mil, glossy, clear, mildew-resistant, polyvinyl fluoride laminating film with a petrochemical-resistant adhesive system. It is designed to further

expand the resistance to weathering of printed graphics up to nine years. Gerber UVGuard 9 has the highest protection from UV fade.

Gerber StrikeGuard™ is an 8.0-mil, clear, glossy overlamine film designed for a variety of applications. This heavy-duty overlamine film is ideal for the protection of graphics, up to two years, and is especially beneficial where printed graphics experience severe handling and forceful impact. Gerber StrikeGuard is not recommended in applications that require petrochemical protection or where additional UV or vandal resistance is desired.

Abrasion Guard™ SPF (Sign Protection Formula) is a clear, top-coat GerberColor Finishing Series (GCF) Foil designed for use with EDGE® Series thermal transfer printing systems, to protect graphics from moderate contact and exposure to harmful effects of UV rays. It has an expected performance life of five years (when printed by itself). When applied as a protective overprint on other GerberColor Foils, Abrasion Guard SPF will extend the life of the base color by up to 30%.

Matte Clear is a clear matte finish, top coat GerberColor Foil designed for use with EDGE® Series thermal transfer printing systems, to reduce glare and protect graphics from moderate contact or handling. It has an expected performance life of three years.

APPLICATION TECHNIQUES

Gerber standard tack application tape is required for all EDGE-printed graphics. Printed graphics should be allowed to cure for 15 minutes prior to the application of transfer tape.

MAINTENANCE

To clean printed graphics, use a mild, non-abrasive soap with a soft cloth or sponge. Avoid using alcohol-based cleansers or soaps containing grit or abrasives.

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

Foil	
Pigment	Resin Based
Color Coat	3.5 to 4.1 microns
Liner Thickness	5.7 microns
Foil Length – <i>minimum</i>	27.34 yards (25 meters)

Cartridge	
Cores	Polystyrene
End Shell	ABS Plastic
End Plugs	ABS Plastic
Side Rails	ABS Plastic
Cartridge Weight	1 lb 12 oz

CHEMICAL RESISTANCE (Printed on Gerber High Performance Series 220)

Chemical Agent	Exposure Time	Results
Water	24 Hours	No Effect
SAE 20 Motor Oil	24 Hours	No Effect
50/50 Ethylene Glycol/Water	24 Hours	No Effect
10% Hydrochloric Acid	10 Minutes	No Effect
10% Ammonium Hydroxide	10 Minutes	No Effect
Mineral Spirits	10 Minutes	No Effect
Dish Detergent/Water	24 Hours	No Effect

RELATED LITERATURE

Refer to Product Bulletins of relevant foils and materials for product-specific handling, production, and finishing information.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For help with questions concerning Gerber products, please call your distributor or Gerber Customer Service at 1-800-222-7446 or (860) 644-1551. Visit us on the Internet at www.gspinc.com to learn more about our many other foils, materials and equipment.

EDGE, GERBER EDGE, GERBER EDGE 2, Gerber Scientific Products, GerberCal, GerberGraphics, GRAPHIX ADVANTAGE, GSP, and Images on Vinyl are Registered Trademarks of Gerber Technology.

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