



## GerberColor™ Medal (GCM) Series Foils

DESCRIPTION .....	1
INTENDED APPLICATIONS .....	1
PERFORMANCE LIFE .....	2
SHELF LIFE AND STORAGE .....	2
PRINTING .....	2
PROTECTING GRAPHICS .....	2
APPLICATION TECHNIQUES .....	3
MAINTENANCE .....	3
PHYSICAL PROPERTIES .....	3
RELATED LITERATURE .....	4
CONTACT INFORMATION .....	4

### DESCRIPTION

GerberColor™ Medal (GCM) Series Foils are durable, dimensionally stable, 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.

Colors
GCM-721 Silver Medal II
GCM-731 Gold Medal
GCM-783 Red Medal*
GCM-747 Blue Medal*

\*Not available in EDGE FX format

### INTENDED APPLICATIONS

GerberColor Medal Series Foils will produce a dynamic, metallized, chrome finish for signs, labels, decals, etc., and are for interior use or short-term exterior (2-week) stationary, non-vehicle vertical sign applications.

GCM Foils are designed for first-surface, solid (100% fill) print applications only and are not reversible. The exception is GCM-721 Silver Medal II, the only Medal Foil which accepts overprinting by transparent and other GerberColor Foils. GCM Foils are compatible with most EDGE READY materials except for Heat Transfer Paper, Gerber Static Cling, all LexEdge™ materials as well as GerberVision™ manufactured by 3M and Gerber InstaChange™ manufactured by 3M.

GCM Foils are not intended for use where they may be exposed to petrochemical spillage. If petrochemical contact is anticipated, refer to the section below on protecting graphics. The user should determine the suitability of all substrates.

## PERFORMANCE LIFE

When printed on EDGE READY materials and applied vertically on stationary, non-vehicle sign applications, GerberColor Medal Series Foils will have an expected exterior performance life of up to 2 weeks. Interior life is limited by exposure to UV light, as in the case of graphics applied near windows or storefronts, and improper care and maintenance of graphics.

Performance statements are based upon field experience and exposure tests using solid fill prints that we believe are reliable. Substrate selection, exposure angle, environmental conditions and maintenance of markings will affect actual performance. Continuous exposure in regions that experience maximum sunny days will result in decreased performance. This product is not recommended for horizontal exposure applications.

## SHELF LIFE AND STORAGE

Printed graphics should be applied within one year. 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. Use a paper interleaf between printed materials that are stacked or rolled. Do not store printed graphics face to face.

## PRINTING

GerberColor Medal (GCM) Series Foils are compatible as an overprint (top layer only) foil with the following GerberColor Series: GerberColor Spot (GCS), GerberColor Process Pro™ CMYK (GCP), and GerberColor Transparent (GCT). GCM Foils should not be used as an underlayer in an overprint construction. The exception is GCM-721 Silver Medal II, which can be *over-printed* with Transparent Foils.

There may be some excess transfer of the foil during printing due to the high pigment load of GCM Series Foils. The excess can be removed with application tape.

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)

## PROTECTING GRAPHICS

Gerber Scientific Products®, Inc. 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 1-mil, glossy, clear, mildew and graffiti-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

When transferring graphics produced with EDGE Series Printers, Gerber standard tack application tape is required. Printed graphics should be allowed to cure for 15 minutes before 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. Automated vehicle washing systems that use rotary cleaning brushes should also be avoided.

## PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

Foil	
Pigment	Dye vapor-coated aluminum
Coat Weight	4.0 microns
Liner Thickness	12 microns
Foil Length - <i>minimum</i>	27.34 yards (25 meters)

Cartridge	
Cores	Black Polyethylene
End Shell	Black ABS Plastic
End Plugs	Black ABS Plastic
Side Rails	Black ABS Plastic
Cartridge Weight	1 lb 6 oz

## 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](http://www.gspinc.com) to learn more about our many other foils, materials and equipment.

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