

Tape That Actually STICKS To Polypropylene (poly) Films !

As much as I like the flight characteristics of polypropylene films for fighter kite skins, one of the more challenging aspects of using polypropylene films is that very few adhesives bond well to the super slick surface of it. I've always relied on contact cement because it was all I'd found that actually bonded securely to the poly films.

That was until Terry McPherson gave me a great tip about a double-sided tape that actually bonds to polypropylene plastic films as well as virtually all other fighter kite skin materials! And when I looked for it on line, I also discovered another very similar tape by a different company that bonds as well.

The brand name of the double-sided tape Terry told me about and that he uses is 'Terrifically tacky tape' the other is 'Therm o web double sided tape'. Both are sold in virtually every craft store or scrapbooking store or department and of course on line and on ebay.

The tape isn't very expensive, it's about \$2-3 per 5 yard roll, depending on the width you buy. It comes in widths of 1/8", 1/4", 1/2", 1-1/16" and in sheets.

I bought the sheets and some of the 1/8" & 1/4" widths. For making multi-panel skins I use either the 1/8" or the 1/4" width tapes and they really bond well. I also use it for bonding the spines to the skin. Quick and easy plus a strong bond!

I cut the sheets to the size and shape I need for bonding a particular part to the skin or for parts of the bow hem or for reinforcing. One really nice aspect of this tape is you can make your own custom tape with this double sided tape.

For example, if you are making a fighter using a red poly film, you can apply some of your scraps to the tape, then peel off the paper covering of the other side of the tape and apply the tape to the kite in the areas you would normally add tape for reinforcing.....but now the tape matches the kite skin exactly...it doesn't look like tape was applied to your kite! That is a really cool aspect of this strong bonding double sided tape!

Thanks a Ton Terry!!

Biggrins, bruce