



## **Painting Fundamental - 14**

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1. High Tack Type – such as duct tape or reinforced nylon type
  - a. Uses
    - i. Tape floor protection materials to each other but not directly to floor
    - ii. Good for use on brick or stucco
    - iii. Tool repair i.e. broken handles
    - iv. Reuse plastic wall zippers
  - b. Pros
    - i. Tears from the roll easily
    - ii. Has great adhesion
    - iii. Very strong
    - iv. Maintains its adhesion when wet
    - v. Sticks reasonably well to rough/irregular surfaces
    - vi. Sticks well to itself
  - c. Cons
    - i. May leave residue that must be removed with solvents
    - ii. Can damage substrates or painted surfaces
    - iii. Difficult to remove
2. Masking Tape (Medium to High Tack)
  - a. Uses
    - i. General taping when there is less concern for substrate damage such as vinyl, tile, linoleum and strongly adhered coatings
    - ii. Used frequently when taping together masking materials (rosin, brown craft paper, plastic etc.)
    - iii. Used when tape will be applied for limited time per manufacturer's guidelines
  - b. Pros
    - i. Good adhesion strength on smooth surfaces
    - ii. Sticks reasonably well on rougher surfaces
    - iii. Excellent adhesion to itself
    - iv. Inexpensive
    - v. Available in wide rolls up to 4 inches
    - vi. Readily available
    - vii. Easy to use and apply in a straight line
  - c. Cons
    - i. May leave residue that must be removed with solvents

## DIFFERENT TYPES OF TAPE COMMONLY USED by PAINTERS

- ii. Extremely difficult to remove if it gets wet, especially if followed by sun exposure
  - iii. Can be extremely difficult to remove if left on a surface longer than recommended especially when exposed to sunlight
  - iv. Not strong, easily tears
  - v. Doesn't stretch around contoured surfaces
  - vi. If edges of tape are damaged, it can unexpectedly tear from the roll
3. "Painters Tape" (Light to Medium Tack – often sold in blue or green tape colors)
- a. Uses
    - i. Good for moderately sensitive surfaces
    - ii. Often good for application to wood floors (test for coating damage first)
    - iii. Good for adhering masking plastic over previously painted surfaces
    - iv. Creating a sharp painted edge
  - b. Pros
    - i. Can be left on surfaces for a relatively long time with clean removal
    - ii. Moderately resistant to sun exposure
    - iii. Sticks well to smooth surfaces or masking paper
    - iv. Easy to remove
    - v. Little to no adhesive residue
    - vi. Commonly available
  - c. Cons
    - i. Some types do not stick well to itself
    - ii. Does not stick well to rougher surfaces
    - iii. Does not stick well to rosin paper
    - iv. More expensive than masking tape
    - v. Not particularly water resistant
4. Delicate Surface Tape (low tack and thinner low profile tape)
- a. Uses
    - i. Creates a sharp line without leaving a coating ridge
    - ii. Great for painting stripes and other decorative patterns
    - iii. Protects sensitive surfaces with reduced risk of damage
    - iv. Can sometimes be applied to recently coated surfaces
  - b. Pros
    - i. Very thin
    - ii. Adheres to smooth surfaces
    - iii. Easy to remove
    - iv. Little to no adhesive residue
    - v. Less susceptible to tearing
    - vi. Can be stretched around moderately curved surfaces
  - c. Cons
    - i. Low adhesion
    - ii. Doesn't adhere well to textured surfaces
    - iii. Doesn't adhere well to low profile narrow edges

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iv. Relatively expensive

### 5. Specialty tapes

- a. Stretchable tape – designed to stretch around curves
- b. Painters Exterior Tape - tears at right angles, UV and waterproof
- c. Stucco tape – adheres well to stucco, brick, grout, stone, wood and is waterproof/uv proof and leaves no residue
- d. Lift off tape – super low tack white paper tape used on very delicate surfaces such as wallpaper
- e. Double-sided tape – used for applying draping plastic and masking products

### Tips

- Most tapes have printed guidelines for recommended duration of application to prevent residue or damage to surfaces.
- Be aware that tape can remove polyurethane finishes from wood floors. Test multiple areas before applying tape to floor.
- Avoid applying tape directly to the floor in high traffic areas because it can be hard to remove.

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