

Adhesive Label Testing for Thammat (63.4)

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Labels printed on Permalife archival paper using a xerographic printer with powdered toner

Labels cut to desired size and then dipped into adhesive using tweezers

Excess adhesive was removed from the label by wiping along the mouth of the adhesive container

Labels tamped down onto substrate to improve contact using tweezers, if necessary

Test #	Adhesive	Observations during application	Observations once dried
Label Test 1	~12% Paraloid B-72	• Good • Easy to dip in and to remove excess • Bubbles • Dried very quickly, maybe too quickly • Excess caused minor staining of substrate, could be reduced with acetone	• Complete coverage • Well adhered • Some bubbles along perimeter though not very noticeable • Surface is somewhat glossy • Saturated label so paper is slightly darker • Resisted snagging
Label Test 2	~25% Paraloid B-72	• Good • Easy to dip label in and to remove excess • Bubbles • Dried quickly but not as fast as ~12% • Excess caused minor staining of substrate, could be reduced with acetone	• Complete coverage • Well adhered • Some bubbles along perimeter though not very noticeable • Surface is somewhat glossy • Saturated label so paper is slightly darker • Resisted snagging
Label Test 3	Jade 403	• Did not like this • Very gloopy, hard to remove sufficient excess • Goes on white, dries clear • Took a while to dry fully	• Good coverage • Well adhered • Adhesive on top is visibly textured and glossy • No darkening of paper • Snagged when brushed up against
Label Test 4	4% Methylcellulose	• Good • Easy to apply, though had to wipe off lots of excess (more than other materials) • Dried quickly	• Complete coverage • Well adhered • No gloss – looks dry • No darkening of paper • Snagged when brushed up against
Label Test 5	Wheat starch paste	• Okay • Very annoying to apply – can't really dip label but have to pull through the adhesive • Hard to make sure label was fully and evenly coated with adhesive	• Complete coverage • Well adhered • No gloss • Slight darkening of paper • Snagged when brushed up against

Takeaways:

Favorites were either concentration of Paraloid B-72 (both were easy to apply, had good even coverage, were not too glossy and resisted snagging) or methylcellulose as a runner up.

If looking to use something more sympathetic to a wood substrate, would opt for methylcellulose. It was easy to apply, had good coverage and wasn't glossy. Methylcellulose did snag when brushed up against but this can be avoided/minimized.