

A joint tape consists of polyurethane foam that is soaked with modified acrylic resin impregnation. In this material, the impregnation mass (short IMA) acts like a sticky resin. In the first place, the IMA prevents the foam from expanding. The time that it takes for the tape to expand from its delivery thickness to its nominal thickness depends on the temperature. This leads to a different response in summer/winter. The defined values and standardised tests for the tape render “summer or winter designs” technically unfeasible, since this may bring about a change in values.

Temperature:

The speed of regression strongly depends on the temperature, i.e. the product temperature and the ambient temperature (construction site / vehicle, etc.). In this process, the IMA in the tape responds like a resin. In warm condition (above 20 °C) it is rather soft, in cold condition it is quite stiff. Compared to a stiff IMA, a soft IMA shows less strength to retain the foam that is willing to expand. Therefore, in our data sheet we recommend storing the tape in a cool place at temperatures above 20 °C (also on the construction site), at temperatures below this value it is advisable to pre-heat the tape (also on the construction site). The material temperature should always be about 20 °C.

Expansion behaviour:

The following guide values apply for our joint tapes:

At 20 °C: After a maximum of 8 hours, the joint should be sealed.

At 5 °C: After a maximum of 48 hours, the joint should be sealed up to the upper limit of the dimensioning specification.

Deviations may occur with both conditions, since the product responds to external conditions. They can prolong or reduce the expansion times. The important thing is that the tape reliably expands when the right joint/tape ratio is selected, and that it seals the joints.

Summary:

With optimum conditions, the tape should have room temperature (20 °C). Generally, a tape that has been stored at temperatures below 5 °C will show difficulties with expanding. Expansion may even take more than 48 hours, specifically if the tape is not enabled to absorb a higher temperature. However, this is not a deficiency of the product, it is merely a prolongation of the expansion time. In this respect, please observe our notes in the technical data sheet.

Our recommendation: If the tape has been actually stored in a cool place and the ambient temperatures do not increase over a long period of time, technical support can be provided. In practice, a hairdryer has proven effective. When the tape is installed, its inner surface (viewed from the living space) can be blow-dried. If the tape then starts to expand on the inner surface, you can assume that this expansion behaviour initiates the expansion process as a whole.

The subsequent worksteps can be continued even if the sealing tape has not fully expanded yet, i.e. plastering work can be carried out up to the edges of the tape. If some plaster enters the space between the tape and the reveal, the tape can expand less in this place, which usually will not have any negative impact though if you are sure to work and clean accurately, since it has been designed for different joint tolerances.

Attention! Important Note:

Above information are based on best present knowledge of current technology, but do not guarantee faultless processing of our products. The information is based on practical results of our tests, but is not binding and does not constitute warranties of characteristics in terms of Federal Supreme Court jurisdiction. Our information does not constitute a legally binding assurance of certain properties or suitability for a specific purpose. Supplementary information by our specialists are merely recommendations, for which no liability is accepted.

Due to the many possible applications of our products, we recommend subjecting the project to a thorough suitability test on original materials before release for further application.

Since our information are non-binding we do not warranty their correctness. For this reason we accept no liability for possible improper processing based on information submitted by our employees.

This technical data sheet replaces all previous versions and is valid until a new version is issued, or until Dec. 31, 2026. Please request the latest version after Jan. 01, 2027.

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