

704 THERMOPLASTIC PAVEMENT MARKINGS

The materials used in thermoplastic may cause allergic reactions in some people, so it is recommended that persons working with or around thermoplastic material carefully monitor themselves and others for such reactions. Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) should be available from the Contractor describing the hazards of working around thermoplastic materials.

Spilled material and containers are to be cleaned up and disposed of quickly and correctly. The containers will have recommended disposal instructions printed on them if disposal is necessary.

Alignment of stripes should be checked, and any corrections in the application method should be made at the very beginning of the striping operation. Thermoplastic markings will be there a long time so they need to be placed correctly the first time.

Surface preparation is critically important for long-lasting thermoplastic markings. On concrete pavements, the areas to be marked need to be thoroughly cleaned (usually by water blasting or sandblasting) and free of all curing compound (which acts like a bond breaker). Any oil or fuel spills on the pavement need to be removed before thermoplastics are placed. A primer-sealer must be applied to Portland cement concrete and existing asphaltic concrete surfaces before application of the thermoplastic material.

Additional items to be checked during thermoplastic striping include:

- material is on current [Approved Products List](#);
- shelf life is less than one year;
- application equipment is within specification;
- material temperature is within specified range when applied;
- road surface temperature and wind chill factor stay above minimum
- pavement is clean and dry;
- material is bonding to the pavement;
- thickness and widths of the stripes;
- stripes are not applied over pavement joints;
- correct amount of beads are firmly stuck to the thermoplastic; and
- a certificate of compliance has been submitted.

704-4 Method of Measurement

Gaps in dashed lines are not deducted from the total length of striping. Double lines are measured as two individual lines. Striping that is wider or less than 4-inch (100-millimeters) must be converted to equivalent 4-inch (100-millimeter) striping in accordance with the Standard Specification.

Each legend and symbol is measured separately. A legend is defined as a complete letter grouping such as "RR", "SCHOOL", and "XING". For example: "SCHOOL" "XING" is measured as two separate legends.