



FLOOR TAPE APPLICATOR

INSTRUCTIONS



800.788.5572

FloorMarking.com

1. What's In the Box

- 1. Base section (frame with rubber wheels & aluminum roller)
- 2. Handle section (long frame with rubber grips)
- 3. 10-inch fender disks (2)
- 4. 4-inch fender disks (2)
- 5. Liner take-up bar (with a roller on one end)
- 6. Guide bar (with flat ends)
- 7. Supply bar (with threaded holes in the ends)
- 8. Guide rings (2)
- 9. Oval mounting plates (2)
- 10. Stemless holding wheels (2)
- 11. Stemmed holding wheels (2)
- 12. Spade screws (4)
- 13. Wing screws (2)
- 14. Washers for wing screws (2)
- 15. Hex screws (4)
- 16. Nuts for hex screws (4)
- 17. "S" hook
- 18. Tension spring
- 19. Empty cardboard cores (2", 3" & 4")
- 20. 4 mm & 3 mm hex keys ("Allen keys")



NOTE: A 10 mm wrench is not included, but may be helpful for assembly.

2. Assembling Your Applicator

The applicator is disassembled for shipping and will need to be reassembled for use in your facility. Before beginning assembly, confirm that all the necessary parts are present.

2.1 Prepare the Guide Bar

Slide both of the guide rings onto the guide bar. Use two spade screws to temporarily tighten the rings in place, near the middle of the bar.

Fit the oval mounting plates onto each end of the guide bar. Each mounting plate has cutouts for screw heads on one side, and a flat face on the other side; the flat sides should face outward.



Components for the guide bar.

2.2 Connect the Guide Bar, Base Section, and Handle Section

Rest the base section on one side, and fit the prongs of the handle section around the middle of the base section. Then, insert the guide bar.

Thread the four hex screws into place, so that each screw goes from the inside of the applicator, through the mounting plates, then through the base section, and finally through the handle section. You may need to stand the applicator upright again. The hex screws can be tightened with the 4 mm hex key (included). A 10 mm wrench (not included) may be helpful when tightening the nuts.



Align the parts (left), insert the hex screws from the inside (center), and add the nuts from the outside (right).

Add a nut to the exposed end of each of the four hex screws, from the outside of the assembly. Tighten these nuts securely; if an additional tool is needed, a 10 mm wrench (not included) is preferred.

The remaining parts of the applicator are used to hold your supplies and to collect the liner as floor tape is applied. The steps to load your supplies, using these parts, are explained in the next section.



Applicator is ready to be loaded.

3. Loading PathFinder Tape

3.1 Prepare the Liner Take-up Bar

Begin by sliding a stemless holding wheel onto the liner take-up bar, so the wider side of the wheel faces the roller on the bar. Using the 3 mm hex key, tighten the wheel's built-in screw (inside the hole in the wheel's rim) to fix the wheel in place on the bar. Leave a small gap between the wheel and the notch in the bar.

Next, fit a 4-inch fender disk onto the rim of the holding wheel, followed by the empty cardboard core. Fit the other 4-inch fender disk onto the rim of a stemmed holding wheel.

Slide the stemmed holding wheel onto the liner take-up bar so that the fender disk faces the empty cardboard core, and the cardboard core is supported from both sides by the holding wheels.



Components for the liner take-up bar.

Now, fit the narrow end of the liner take-up bar into the hole near the right front corner of the base section, near one of the rubber wheels. Rest the roller end of the bar into the slot near the front left corner, so the roller rests directly on the front left wheel.

Hook one end of the tension spring in the notch of the bar at the front of the base section, connect the other end of the tension spring to the small end of the "S" hook, and connect the large end of the "S" hook to the notch on the liner take-up bar. The liner take-up bar's roller will be pulled tight against the wheel of the base section, so that the liner take-up bar rotates as the applicator moves.

Finally, check that the holding wheels, fender disks, and cardboard core rotate smoothly as the rubber wheels of the applicator turn. If not, you may need to slide the pieces apart, and use the 3 mm hex key to loosen and adjust the stemless holding wheel. When parts turn smoothly, confirm that the cardboard core is supported by both holding wheels, and tighten the stemmed holding wheel in place using a spade screw.



Liner take-up bar is fully installed.

3.2 Prepare Your Tape on the Supply Bar

The process to load Pathfinder floor tape into the applicator is similar to the process for preparing the liner take-up bar.

Begin by sliding a stemless holding wheel onto the liner take-up bar, so the wider side of the wheel is near one end of the bar. Using the 3 mm hex key, tighten the wheel's built-in screw (inside the hole in the wheel's rim) to fix the wheel in place on the bar.

Next, fit a 10-inch fender disk onto the rim of the holding wheel. Then, add your roll of tape, so the holding wheel supports the roll from one side.

Fit the other 10-inch fender disk onto the rim of a stemmed holding wheel, and slide them onto the supply bar so the fender disk faces the roll of supply and the roll of supply is supported from both sides by the holding wheels.



Components for the supply bar.

Now that you have assembled the supply bar, place its ends in the notches in the handle section. Check that the loose end of the tape falls from the back of the roll, closer to the aluminum roller on the base section, and that roll of supply is aligned with the cardboard core on the liner take-up bar. Use a spade screw in the stem of the stemmed wheel to tighten the parts in place.

Finally, secure the supply roll in place using the wing screws and washers. Insert a wing screw through a washer, through the hole in the handle section of the applicator, and into the supply bar. Repeat for each side of the bar. These wing screws should be finger-tight.



Supply bar is fully installed.

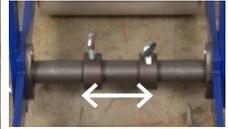
4. Applying Tape

Now that the tape and take-up roller have been prepared, move the applicator to the location where you want to apply the tape.

Before applying floor tape, make sure the floors to be marked are clean and dry. You should have a clear plan of where you want to apply the tape, and that area should be kept clear and accessible until the tape is down. It is often a good idea to use a chalk line tool to draw out the shapes to be followed in floor tape.

4.1 Thread the Tape

When you are ready to begin applying the PathFinder floor tape, check that the roll of tape and the empty core for liner take-up are aligned with each other. Then, pull the loose end of the tape down from its roll. This should feed under the tape roll and forward, toward the liner take-up bar, with the liner on top.



Ensure that the supply roll, take-up roll, and guide rings are aligned with each other.

Adjust the guide rings on the guide bar to fit around the tape, by loosening their spade screws and sliding the guide rings. Tighten the spade screws again when the guides let the tape slide smoothly between them.

Peel some of the liner away from the floor marking tape. Feed this liner underneath the liner take-up bar, and attach it to the empty cardboard core with a piece of tape.

Now, feed the tape (without its liner) underneath the guide bar, and underneath the aluminum roller. At that point, the adhesive of the tape will be exposed, and should be pressed against the floor. Be sure, before you press the tape down, that it is in the right location for your needs.



As the applicator moves forward, the liner will wind onto the liner take-up bar, and the PathFinder floor tape will be pressed onto the floor.

4.2 Walking the Tape Down

Push the applicator forward, with the rubber wheels in front, and confirm that the tape is adhering to the floor as you move. Check the alignment of the tape, and adjust direction as needed. Keep a firm grip on the applicator.

Walk slowly at first, to avoid any waste if the tape is not quite lined up. Once you know the tape is feeding smoothly and adhering where you want it, keep a steady pace.



Begin slowly, to confirm that the tape is feeding properly and is adhering in a straight line.

The liner will be rolled onto the cardboard core on the liner take-up bar, and your PathFinder floor tape will be applied securely. Once the floor tape has been applied, most work can resume immediately. For best results, allow the adhesive to set for 24 hours before resuming automotive or forklift traffic.

If you need to cut the tape, you can do so with a craft knife or utility knife.

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NOTE: Cutting through the liner will make it easier to move the applicator, but will require you to re-tape the liner onto the take-up roll before applying more floor tape.
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