

Installing Gateway F Channel

Our F Channel is shipped with 3M VHB tape applied. Prior to attaching it, the substrate must be cleaned and prepared. The bond has been tested on flat materials, including metal, laminate, wood, and tempered glass with very good results. It is very strong. Most substrates are best prepared by cleaning with a 50:50 mixture of isopropyl alcohol (IPA) and water. Allow a few minutes to dry.

Layout all the F Channel to the preferred placement while the outside face is still attached. Mark the surfaces where it will be attached. Remove the outside face and carefully place or roll the F Channel into place, the bond is instant. Apply at least 15 psi of pressure. After application, the bond strength will increase as the adhesive flows onto the surface. At room temperature, approximately 50% of the ultimate strength will be achieved after 20 minutes, 90% after 24 hours and 100% after 72 hours.

Insert the 3/8" acrylic and apply vertical downward pressure into the channel. A few taps with a rubber mallet may be necessary to firmly nest the acrylic. Note: acrylic thickness does vary slightly due to tolerances in manufacturing.

Removing Gateway F Channel

Step 1

Using fish line, slide it under the channel and continue to the end to remove the channel. Using a plastic putty knife or scraper, remove as much tape as possible. Apply a moderate amount of WD-40, Goo Gone or a mixture of warm water and lemon oil to the corner of a clean, dry towel or terry cloth. All-purpose lacquer thinner may also be used but can harm some surfaces if left on for too long.

Since 3M designed VHB tape to be irremovable, 3M also manufactures two devices, the Smart Tool and the Stripe Off Wheel, that are guaranteed to remove the VHB tape and residue from nearly any surface.

Step 2

Fold the cloth over and gently buff the area containing the VHB tape. Apply a moderate amount of pressure and use small circular motions to remove the VHB tape and residue.

Step 3

Repeat this process until the VHB tape has been successfully removed. If this does not work, purchase either the 3M Stripe Off Wheel or the 3M Smart Tool. These products were designed specifically to remove VHB tape and VHB tape residue.

Tested Applications – Panel Systems

Due to the design of the panels and top caps, some systems require anchoring the F Channel thru the top cap into the frame for stability. The following systems have been tested with screens up to 16"H, without the use of anchors or screws. Please consult your market manager if you have any questions or concerns about your application.

Steelcase: Montage, Answer (flat trim), Elective Elements (wood trim)
Herman Miller: AO2, Ethospace
Haworth: UniGroup (aluminum top cap), Compose
Knoll: Morrison, Dividends
Kimball: Xcit
AIS: Divi

