

# Scotch-Blue™ Painter's Tape

## Decorative Striped Pattern

Choose the right tape for this technique and the surfaces you are going to mask!

Details on page 2

One of the secrets to a successful painting project is properly preparing the surface. That means repairing any imperfections on the wall like cracks or old nail holes and sanding the wall smooth with 3M™ abrasives. Then, clean the wall and any surfaces you plan to mask. It is easier to achieve sharp, professional paint lines when you tape on a clean, dry surface.



Not sure what Scotch-Blue painter's tape to choose? Use the chart on the next page to help you identify which tape to use on which surface. This is particularly important when trying different painting techniques. You will want a tape that can be applied to paint that is only 24-hours old.



### Step-by-Step Guide for this Painting Technique

This technique is an easy way to obtain interesting and varied striped patterns with minimal measuring and pencil lines.

**Step 1:** Planning: Plan a decorative stripe pattern that varies in widths to add dimension to your walls. For example, a simple pattern could be a symmetrical 'grouping' of alternating dark and light stripes of the following widths: 1-inch (dark stripe), 1-inch (light stripe), 4-inch (dark stripe), 1-inch (light stripe), 1-inch (dark stripe); each grouping separated by a 10-inch light stripe.

**Step 2:** Mask all trim and woodwork using the Scotch-Blue™ Painter's Tape Applicator. Or you can use a standard roll of one of the Scotch-Blue painter's tapes. Be sure to reference the chart on the next page to choose the correct tape.



**Step 3:** Paint the walls the lightest color. Let dry for at least 24 hours.

**Step 4:** Plan your placement on the wall, starting five inches from your first corner and wrap through the corners. Mark your 'groupings' on pieces of Scotch-Blue painter's tape placed on either the crown molding, ceiling or top of the wall.

**Step 5:** Using a bubble or laser level, lightly pencil in a line at the edge of one of your groupings of stripes.

**Step 6:** Starting from the pencil line, place three strips of 1-inch Scotch-Blue™ Painter's Tape for Delicate Surfaces (orange and blue core) directly alongside one another running from the top of the wall to the bottom. Remove the middle piece of painter's tape, which will be painted the darker stripe color.

**Step 7:** Measure 4 inches from the last 1-inch stripe of painter's tape that you put on the wall. Then, repeat the process of putting three strips of 1-inch tape alongside one another and remove the middle piece of tape, which will be painted the darker stripe color.



**Step 8:** Then, measure 10 inches from the last 1-inch strip of painter's tape that you put on the wall.

**Step 9:** Repeat the process in steps 7–9 until you have successfully masked the entire room.

**Step 10:** Press down the edges of the tape using a putty knife or 5-in-1 tool. Paint the exposed 1-inch and 4-inch spaces the darker color.



**Step 11:** When the dark stripes have dried, remove the tape to see the finished pattern!





### Tools You'll Need:

- Scotch-Blue™ Painter's Tape for Multi-Surfaces AND/OR
- Scotch-Blue™ Painter's Tape for Delicate Surfaces (see chart on the next page)
- Roller
- Paint
- Tape measure
- Putty knife or 5-in-1 tool
- Roller tray
- Paint brushes
- Bubble or laser level

The right tape depends on the surface you're masking.



AREA YOU NEED TO MASK	 Multi-Surfaces	 Delicate Surfaces
<b>Walls/Ceilings</b>		
Ceiling Tile		●
Cured Paint* (30 days old)	●	
Fresh Paint (At least 24 hours old)		●
Heavy Knock-down, Textured**	●	
Walls with Multiple Coats of Paint	●	
Painted Wallboard, Orange Peel Texture**	●	
Painted Wallboard, Smooth		●
Primed Wallboard, Orange Peel Texture	●	
Primed Wallboard, Smooth		●
Venetian Plaster	●	
Wallpaper, Vinyl Coated		●
<b>Trim/Woodwork/Cabinets***</b>		
Cured Paint* (30 days old)	●	
Fresh Paint (At least 24 hours old)		●
Finished with Polyurethane		●
Finished with Stain Only		●
Metal Fixtures	●	
Unfinished Wood	●	
Veneer		●
<b>Flooring</b>		
Carpet	●	
Ceramic/Tile	●	
Cork**		●
Finished, Hardwood (properly bonded)		●
Hardwood, Veneers		●
Laminate Floors		●
Stone/Marble/Slate	●	●
Unfinished, Hardwood	●	
Vinyl	●	●
<b>Miscellaneous</b>		
Caulk	●	●
Glass	●	●
Porcelain	●	●

## HELPFUL HINTS

**Clean the Surface:** Be sure the surfaces you are planning to mask are clean, dry and dust-free so tape will stick properly.



**Avoid Stretching the Tape:** Pull tape off the roll a few feet at a time and lay it into any surface depressions. Press tape down as you go.



**Secure the Tape:** For the best paint lines, press tape edges down firmly with a putty knife, 5-in-1 tool, or any straight-edge tool.



### Tricks to Achieving Sharp Paint Lines:

On *smooth surfaces*, use Scotch-Blue painter's tape for delicate surfaces. On *semi-smooth to semi-rough surfaces*, use Scotch-Blue painter's tape for multi-surfaces. On *rougher surfaces* be sure to seal the edges of the tape with the paint base color. This will help the tape adhere to the rougher wall and give you clean, sharp, professional paint lines.



**Speed of Removal:** A moderate speed is best for removing tape. An excessive rate of removal may cause tearing or surface damage.

**Angle of Removal:** Remove tape at a 45-degree angle, pulling the tape back on itself. If adhesive begins to transfer, remove at a 90-degree angle. If tape begins to sliver or break due to the paint build-up, score the tape edge by sliding a putty knife or other flat, sharp object between the wall and the tape to help remove it in one piece. You may want to use a 90-degree angle and a slower speed of removal.



**Masking in Sunny Locations:** Always use one of the Scotch-Blue painter's tapes if tape will be exposed to direct sunlight. Unlike most general purpose masking tapes, Scotch-Blue painter's tape is sunlight-resistant, and won't bake on the surface.

### ● Recommended

- Scotch-Blue™ Painter's Tape for Delicate Surfaces (orange and blue core) is NOT recommended on lacquer, paper or foil wallcoverings, unprimed wallboard or rough surfaces.
- Scotch-Blue™ Painter's Tape for Multi-Surfaces (white and blue core) is NOT recommended on lacquer, wallpaper, unpainted wallboard or wood floors.
- The Scotch-Blue™ Painter's Tape Applicator uses Scotch-Blue™ Painter's Tape for Multi-Surfaces only.

\* Check paint can for manufacturer's suggested time (usually cured 30 days).

\*\* Test before use. It is best to test all tapes on all surfaces in an inconspicuous location before masking an entire room.

\*\*\* If cabinets have a vinyl laminate, test before use.

Construction and Home Improvement Markets Division

3M Center, Building 223-4S-02  
St. Paul, MN 55144-1000  
1-800-494-3552  
www.ScotchBlue.com

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