


Get the Lead Out!

Most lead-containing autoclave tape has hash marks  that turn black when autoclaved. If your tape has very faint text (the word “autoclaved”) that turns brownish with heat, the tape is likely lead free.



Check inside the roll for the manufacture information.

FisherBrand, 3M Comply, Propper, Shamrock and VWR (“Canada”) brand contain lead levels that exceed the hazardous waste disposal limits.

Dispose of lead-containing tape as hazardous waste:

1. Exchange unused rolls with lead free tape available from EH&S. This offer available until Oct. 1, 2009.
2. Collect used pieces of lead-containing autoclave tape in a sealed Zip-Lock bag or plastic bottle.
3. Label the bag/bottle **Hazardous Waste, D008**.
4. Complete a Request for Waste Disposal using the online form, http://safety.dri.edu/Forms/waste_login.php.

Ensure new autoclave tape purchases do not contain lead, by ordering non-lead alternatives:

- **VWR:** VWR Autoclave Indicator Tape, 73390-064, 36432-188 or 36432-190; TimeMed Tapes available from VWR 14217-334 and 14217-336
- **Fisher:** ITW Alma Chemical Indicator Label, catalog number 19-130-1936
- **SPS Medical:** Latex/Lead Free Steam indicator Tape, product number LF2-048