

FAQ: Readi-Base® Brackets with eXact® Pre-Applied Adhesive

1. What type of adhesive is pre-applied to TPO® brackets?

Similar to other light cure adhesives on the market, eXact adhesive consists of methacrylate binders with photoinitiator, inhibitors, and inert fillers such as glass powder and thickening/flow control agents. The adhesive allows ample working time, yet cures rapidly when exposed to blue light and has excellent bond strength.

2. What is the bond strength of TPO brackets with eXact Pre-Applied Adhesive?

Peak bond strength depends largely on the surface covered by the different-sized brackets. The bond strength compares to other light cure adhesives applied by hand.

3. Can the bracket be repositioned once placed on the tooth?

The eXact Pre-Applied Adhesive is dispensed at a specific volume for each different bracket. Initial bracket placement on the tooth surface should be made with light pressure to form a tack bond to the tooth surface while preventing adhesive from spreading. This tack bond will allow for fine tune positioning of the bracket. Once the final position is reached, pressure should be applied to the bracket to spread adhesive across the entire bonding surface. The bracket may not be repositioned after this point.

4. If there is a problem such as moisture contamination or an accidental debond, can the eXact Pre-Applied Adhesive bracket be rebonded with a different adhesive?

Brackets can be re-used by wiping off any uncured adhesive with a lint-free dry cloth. Another light cure adhesive, such as Turbo Bond II, should be applied to the bracket base after checking for any damage or contamination. However, the safest and preferred method is to obtain a new bracket for replacement.

5. Are there any special considerations in debonding?

Bond strength of TPO brackets with eXact Pre-Applied Adhesive is equal to that of traditional bonding. During debonding, the mesh base releases from the tooth with a standard debonding instrument, retaining the majority of the adhesive.

6. What's the best way to store the brackets?

TPO brackets with eXact Pre-Applied Adhesive should be stored in unopened packages out of direct sunlight or strong artificial light in temperatures between 35°F and 80°F (2°C and 27°C). Packages should be protected from extreme fluctuations in temperature, and if possible, *kits should be stored lying flat, facing upwards.*

7. What if I accidentally store the brackets outside of the recommended temperature range?

Brackets can be permanently damaged with exposure outside the recommended temperature range. Visual inspection and feel of the adhesive with an explorer can usually indicate if the adhesive properties are compromised after such an occurrence.

8. Can brackets be frozen or stored below recommended temperatures to increase shelf life?

No, storing at cold temperatures below the recommended temperature range can irreversibly damage the adhesive, making brackets unusable.

9. Does eXact Pre-Applied Adhesive contain fluoride?

Yes, eXact Pre-Applied Adhesive releases fluoride while curing.

10. Are TPO brackets with eXact Pre-Applied Adhesive compatible with all primers and sealants?

TPO Sealant is recommended, however, brackets with eXact Pre-Applied Adhesive are compatible with all primers and sealants available for orthodontic bracket mounting.

WARNING: DO NOT use adhesion promoters or enhancers with any TPO bracket with a polymer base. Use of adhesion promoters is not necessary and may result in damage to the enamel during debonding. *Many light cure systems on the market contain enhancers; please contact the manufacturer or refer to technical data if you are unsure.*

11. Is eXact Pre-Applied Adhesive moisture-resistant?

Moisture can contaminate the adhesive and lower bonding performance. The tooth surface should be thoroughly dried after conditioning, prior to applying sealant resin and bracket placement. If contamination occurs, the individual bracket pod can be resealed to marginally increase the working time of the adhesive.

12. Does the adhesive cure in a different color from the bracket?

The adhesive maintains the same color as the base and will not change the appearance of the bracket.

13. Can TPO brackets with eXact Pre-Applied Adhesive be used for indirect bonding?

No, brackets are designed for direct bonding only.

14. Can some brackets be saved in the original package following the bondup?

Each bracket is sealed in its own light-protective, foil-sealed pod. Unopened pods may be saved until the assigned expiration date. Once the pod is opened and resealed, the shelf life is compromised.

15. What is the shelf life for unopened packages of TPO brackets with eXact Pre-Applied Adhesive?

The shelf life for unopened brackets is 18 months from the date of manufacture. The expiration date is clearly visible on the product packaging.

Visit eXactAdhesive.com for more information.

