

3M Science.
Applied to Life.™

3M™ Steri-Strip™ Adhesive Skin Closures.

**Making skin closures
fast and simple.**



3M™ Steri-Strip™ Adhesive Skin Closures

Safe wound closure

Choosing a closure method.

Artificial wound closures support healing until skin is strong enough to handle daily tensile forces. Traditionally sutures or staples performed this role. However, adhesive skin closures are increasing in popularity as an option that improves patient comfort and increases the tensile strength of the wound compared to sutures.^{1,2,3,4,5}

3M™ Steri-Strip™ Adhesive Skin Closures also help to improve cosmetic outcomes when used to replace staples or sutures.^{1,6,7,8,9} Similarly, wounds supported with these closures are less visible after early staple or suture removal.¹⁰



3M™ Steri-Strip™

Reinforced Skin Closures

- Used in the closure of lacerations, surgical incisions and following early suture/staple removal
- Non-woven, rayon-backed material reinforced with filaments for strength



3M™ Steri-Strip™

Elastic Skin Closures

- Designed to stretch to accommodate swelling, body movement and contours
- Soft, non-woven backing for patient comfort



3M™ Steri-Strip™

Blend Tone Skin Closures

- Wound support with a less noticeable look
- Non-reinforced closures with a pressure-sensitive adhesive

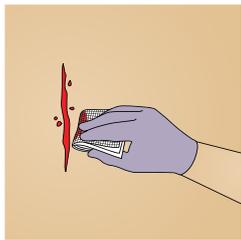


3M™ Steri-Strip™

Wound Closure System

- Ideal for wounds and incisions 2.5cm or less and when extra protection is required
- Combines 3M™ Steri-Strip™ Skin Closures with 3M™ Tegaderm™ Dressings into one product
- Provides water proof coverage

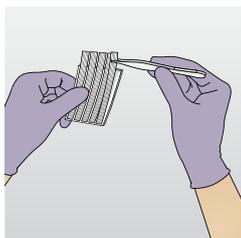
Skin Closure Application



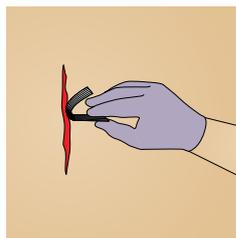
1. Clean and dry skin at least 5cm around wound. If distention or movement is anticipated, consider using 3M™ Steri-Strip™ Elastic Skin Closures.



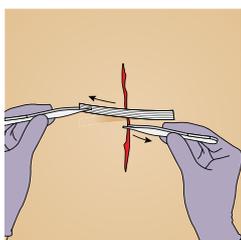
2. Peel back package tabs to access the sterile Steri-Strip closures. Remove card, using sterile precautions as necessary. Bend card at end perforation and gently remove tab.



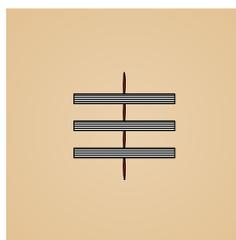
3. Grasp end of skin closure with forceps or gloved hand; lift straight upward (90 degree angle). Steri-Strip closures lifted at a lesser angle or directly back on themselves may “curl,” complicating handling.



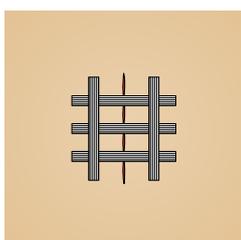
4. Steri-Strip closures must be applied without tension. Do not stretch or “strap” Steri-Strip closures. Apply one-half of first closure to wound margin and press firmly in place.



5. Using fingers or forceps, approximate wound edges and apply Steri-Strip closure. Gently, but firmly, smooth skin closure from centre outward.



6. The rest of the wound should be closed with additional Steri-Strip closures spaced approximately 3mm apart until edges are completely approximated. If edges are not accurately apposed, remove Steri-Strip closures over affected area (peeling each side towards wound) and reapproximate wound.



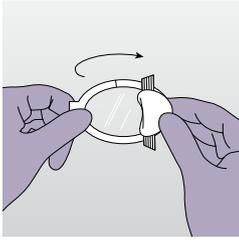
7. Additional Steri-Strip closures may be applied parallel to wound, approximately 1cm in from ends (cross stays, railroad tracks). This may reduce stress beneath the ends of Steri-Strip closures decreasing risk of skin tension blisters and premature lifting of Steri-Strip closures.

Skin Closure Removal

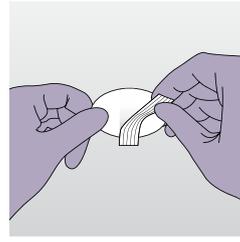
1. Remove cross stays. Gently grasp and loosen ends of Steri-Strip closure.
2. Stabilise the skin with one finger. Remove Steri-Strip closure “low and slow” towards wound, keeping it close to skin surface and pulled back over itself. Removing Steri-Strip closure at an angle will pull at the epidermis increasing risk of mechanical trauma.
3. As the Steri-Strip closure is removed, continue moving finger as necessary, supporting newly exposed skin. When both sides of the Steri-Strip closure are completely loosened, lift strip up from centre of wound.

Tip: If tension is noted under Steri-Strip skin closures, they may be replaced under the direction of a health care professional. Lifted edges of Steri-Strip closures may be trimmed. However, when less than 1.5cm of Steri-Strip closures remains on either side of wound, one might consider gently removing the Steri-Strip closure and replacing it with a new one.

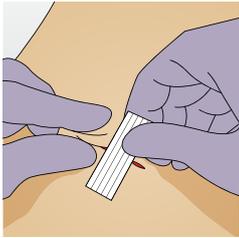
Wound Closure Application



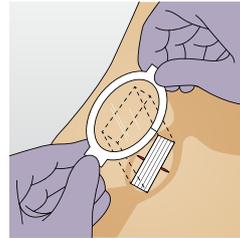
1. Prepare site for closure and dressing. Remove centre oval with Steri-Strip closure attached from the 3M™ Tegaderm™ Transparent Film Dressing. The Steri-Strip closure will remain on the oval.



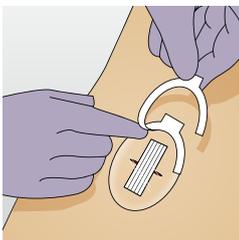
2. Grasp one end of Steri-Strip closure to remove.



3. Approximate wound edges and apply Steri-Strip closure. Gently, but firmly, smooth skin closure from centre outward.



4. Peel paper liner from dressing to expose adhesive surface. Position dressing over site, covering Steri-Strip closure.

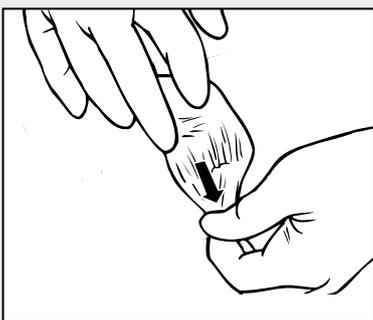


5. Gently remove paper frame while smoothing down dressing edges. Firmly smooth dressing from centre towards the edges.

Removal

Using the stretch method will allow the Steri-Strip closure to remain in place. If Steri-Strip closure is also to be removed, follow removal instructions below.

Stretch Method



1. Grasp one edge or catch a “corner” of the 3M™ Tegaderm™ Transparent Film Dressing with a piece of tape.

2. Gently lift edge.

3. With other hand, place fingers on top of dressing to support skin.

4. Gently stretch the Tegaderm™ dressing straight out and parallel to skin.

This will release the adhesion of the dressing to the skin.

As the Tegaderm™ dressing is loosened, you may either (1) alternately stretch and relax the dressing or (2) “walk” your fingers under the dressing to continue stretching it. With both approaches, one hand continually supports the skin adhered to the Tegaderm™ dressing.

Tip: If tension is noted under Steri-Strip skin closures, they may be replaced under the direction of a health care professional. Lifted edges of Steri-Strip closures may be trimmed. However, when less than 1.5cm of Steri-Strip closures remains on either side of wound, one might consider gently removing the Steri-Strip closure and replacing it with a new one.

Skin Closure Removal

1. Remove cross stays. Gently grasp and loosen ends of Steri-Strip closure.

2. Stabilise the skin with one finger. Remove Steri-Strip closure “low and slow” towards wound, keeping it close to skin surface and pulled back over itself. Removing Steri-Strip closure at an angle will pull at the epidermis increasing risk of mechanical trauma.

3. As the Steri-Strip closure is removed, continue moving finger as necessary, supporting newly exposed skin. When both sides of the Steri-Strip closure are completely loosened, lift strip up from centre of wound.

Ordering Information

3M™ Steri-Strip™

Reinforced Skin Closures

Code	Description	Size	Packaging	Colour
R1540	5 strips/envelope	3mm x 75mm	50 Env/Box 4 Boxes/Case	Purple
R1541	3 strips/envelope	6mm x 75mm	50 Env/Box 4 Boxes/Case	Red
R1542	6 strips/envelope	6mm x 38mm	50 Env/Box 4 Boxes/Case	Green
R1546	10 strips/envelope	6mm x 100mm	50 Env/Box 4 Boxes/Case	Orange
R1547	6 strips/envelope	12mm x 100mm	50 Env/Box 4 Boxes/Case	Blue
R1548	4 strips/envelope	25mm x 125mm	25 Env/Box 4 Boxes/Case	Yellow

3M™ Steri-Strip™

Elastic Skin Closures

Code	Description	Size	Packaging	Colour
E4540	5 strips/envelope	3mm x 75mm	50 Env/Box 4 Boxes/Case	Purple
E4541	3 strips/envelope	6mm x 75mm	50 Env/Box 4 Boxes/Case	Red
E4542	6 strips/envelope	6mm x 38mm	50 Env/Box 4 Boxes/Case	Green
E4546	10 strips/envelope	6mm x 100mm	50 Env/Box 4 Boxes/Case	Orange
E4547	6 strips/envelope	12mm x 100mm	50 Env/Box 4 Boxes/Case	Blue
E4548	4 strips/envelope	25mm x 125mm	25 Env/Box 4 Boxes/Case	Yellow
E4549	6 strips/envelope	12mm x 50mm	50 Env/Box 4 Boxes/Case	Bright Blue

Ordering Information

3M™ Steri-Strip™

Blend Tone Skin Closures

Code	Description	Size	Packaging	Colour
B1550	5 strips/envelope (Aust. Only)	3mm x 75mm	50 Env/Box 4 Boxes/Case	Purple
B1551	3 strips/envelope	6mm x 75mm	50 Env/Box 4 Boxes/Case	Red

3M™ Steri-Strip™

Wound Closure System

Code	Description	Size	Packaging
W8512	1 closure/envelope	60mm x 48mm	25 Env/Box 4 Boxes/Case
W8514	3 closures/envelope	60mm x 48mm	25 Env/Box 4 Boxes/Case
W8516	5 closures/envelope	60mm x 48mm	25 Env/Box 4 Boxes/Case

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5. Forrester JC: Tape-closed and sutured wounds: A comparison by tensiometry and scanning electron microscopy. Brit. J. Surg, 57:(10): 729-737, 1970.
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