



Best Practice Guide to:

# Floor Marking

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Solutions for Safety & Visual Communication



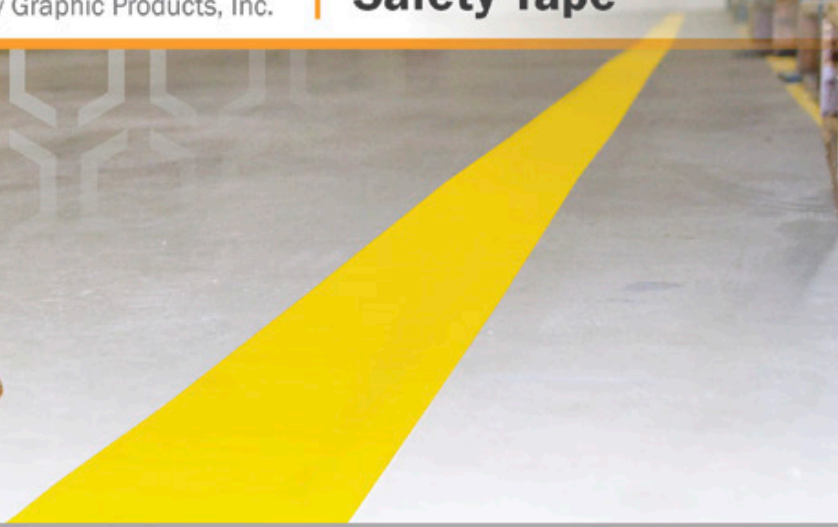
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by Graphic Products, Inc.

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### RIGID

Maximum Durability



### FLEX

Tough & Pliable



### LITE

Versatile & Economical



### TREAD

Slip Prevention



### REFLECT

Increase Visibility



### GLOW

Emergency & Egress



### PRINT

Preprinted or Customized



Visit us online to find out more about our full line of wayfinding and safety tapes

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**Thank you!**

# INTRODUCTION

The safest route isn't always a straight line. Today's industrial workforce must navigate traffic, energized equipment, and increasingly complex facilities. Floor marking can help. The term floor marking refers to lines and symbols on the floor that make people aware of important workplace boundaries. Some common uses of floor marking include: pedestrian walkways, product storage areas, and hazardous areas.

## Why Floor Marking?

Floor marking and wayfinding make it easier for people to get around safely. These visual cues can be seen in all kinds of professional environments, from heavy-duty manufacturing and warehouse facilities, to small schools and gymnasiums. When used strategically, floor marking communicates important information to people at the exact location where they need it, making a facility safer and more efficient.

Use this floor marking guide to initiate floor marking at your facility, as a safety training resource, or a tool in your facility's existing visual communications program. This guide includes:

 Common uses of floor marking	 Helpful tips for floor marking	 Recommended products & solutions
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Contact Graphic Products at 877.534.5157 or visit [GraphicProducts.com](http://GraphicProducts.com) with any questions not answered by this guide at any stage in your research process. We also have a convenient live chat function on our website so you can get the answers you need immediately.



PathFinder tape solutions will improve your facility's efficiency, visual communication, and safety.

# FLOOR MARKING APPLICATIONS

No two facilities are alike. Utilize input from your workforce and meet with health and safety professionals to determine what works best in your facility. The following floor marking applications are commonly used to protect workers, visitors, and equipment.

## Traffic Routes

Pedestrian and vehicular pathway markings are probably the most common use of floor marking tapes. Forklift collisions with workers are a major cause of workplace fatalities, which is a good indicator of how important clearly marked traffic routes are. Marking emergency exit routes is also important; exit floor markings can include directional arrows and glow-in-the-dark<sup>1</sup> lines. Ideally, route markings should be so easy to understand that people can navigate safely through a facility without any prior training.

**What to use:** Improve visibility and enhance safety by using **PathFinder Reflect Tape** and **Stick-on Shapes** in poor lighting and indoor or outdoor conditions. The Reflect Tape is eye-catching and focuses worker and visitor attention where it matters most. **PathFinder Glow Tape** is useful in lights-out situations. Glow Tape can be used to mark doors, safe routes, and exits to ensure workers and visitors can find their way out of the facility safely.

## Hazardous Areas

Employers often fail to protect workers from falls. The lack of safety resources are routinely one of OSHA's top cited violations. Communicate potentially hazardous areas with floor marking barriers and messages. Communicate hazards by: placing markings in front of a potentially hazardous piece of equipment like a conveyor; in an area that contains a known hazard like a high amount of particulates in the air; and placing markings in front of electrical panels where arc flash is a risk.

**What to use:** Protect employees from the number one cause of injury in the workplace, slips and falls, with a wide range of **PathFinder Tread Tapes**. Tread Tapes create long-standing



Use PathFinder hazard striped tape for loading docks and other potentially hazardous boundaries.



Floor marking can organize the storage of inventory.

grip for maximum resistance wherever you need it. Facilities can also order or create customized floor marking messages with **Print Tape** and a **DuraLabel printer**. Print Tape communicates situation-specific information, like "Hearing Protection Required," where it's needed most.

## Product & Material Storage

Some facilities mark product and material storage areas. These can be temporary storage areas, such as products that are currently being worked on, or more long-term storage areas, such as raw material storage bins or finished inventory. The point of labeling these areas is to easily communicate to workers where resources should go and where to find them when they're needed. The reduction in worker confusion results in greater efficiency and safety. This use of floor marking and wayfinding can also be considered part of a lean manufacturing<sup>2</sup> or 5S<sup>3</sup> initiative.

**What to use:** **PathFinder Heavy Duty Tape** is perfect for busy warehouse floors and storage areas with heavy forklift and foot traffic.

<sup>1</sup> For more information about glow-in-the-dark signs, see the corresponding section of this guide or request the more detailed guide entitled Introduction to Photoluminescent Labels, Signs and Path Markings, free from Graphic Products.

<sup>2</sup> Lean manufacturing is a school of thought that considers the use of resources for any goal other than creating value for the end customer to be "waste." Lean manufacturing aims to eliminate all forms of waste. It is often associated with the philosophy of "continuous improvement," which means always looking for new ways to reduce waste and improve efficiency.

<sup>3</sup> 5S is a workplace organization method that originated in Japanese production facilities. The method describes 5 steps, all starting with the letter 'S', that will increase the organization and efficiency of a workplace. 5S is often included under the larger umbrella of lean manufacturing. For more information on 5S, ask for the free 5S System Guide from Graphic Products.

## FLOOR MARKING APPLICATIONS

### Equipment & Tools

Many facilities have outlines around equipment and tools. For example, a white line of tape may be applied around the base of a portable machine or tool to let workers know where that object is supposed to be located. This ensures workers will never waste time searching for the resources they need. This use of floor marking also can fall under a 5S lean manufacturing program. A floor outline around a machine can also indicate if a part like a swinging arm extends beyond the equipment's footprint.

**What to use:** **PathFinder Heavy Duty** and **Reflect Tape** can be used to highlight machine boundaries and increase efficiency in the workplace.



Protect employees from the number one cause of workplace injuries, slips and falls, with PathFinder Tread tapes.



Improve efficiency by marking tools and work stations with PathFinder tapes.

### All Types of Workplace Communication

There is no limit to how floor marking can be used. Other uses include:

- Marking areas that need to be kept clear of people and objects
- Marking areas where workers should stand when operating a machine or performing a procedure
- Reminders for other important workplace communications, such as "No Smoking" or "No Loitering"

Visit [FloorMarking.com](http://FloorMarking.com) for the entire assortment of PathFinder floor marking tapes and wayfinding solutions. Call Graphic Products at 877.534.5157 for more information.

# Ready to improve safety?



Print Labels & Signs from ½" up to 9" with DuraLabel Printers



Graphic Products' DuraLabel line offers affordable and effective ways to maximize safety communication in your workplace.



Home of DuraLabel

Find the best printer for your needs! Call 877.534.5157 or visit [GraphicProducts.com](http://GraphicProducts.com)

# IMPROVING SAFETY & EFFICIENCY

Floor marking doesn't just improve safety; it makes a facility more efficient. This section examines some of the major ways floor marking benefits an organization.

## Improving Safety

Floor marking makes a work area easier to understand, which in turn makes it safer. Some examples of how floor marking is used for safety are:

 Pedestrian walkways	 "Keep Area Clear" identification
 Vehicular traffic paths	 Environmental hazards
 Aisle marking	 Mechanical hazards
 Glow path markers	 Electrical hazards
 Exit routes	 Noise hazards
 Safety equipment/PPE	 Bumps, holes, other trip hazards

Hazards aren't always visible. Maintaining a clean and efficient work environment with floor marking applications also improves safety. For instance, having the floor marked with the proper locations for equipment and tools makes it easier to keep clutter down and decrease risk of injury.

Most industrial facilities already use floor marking for safety purposes. But most facilities haven't spent time to maximize the impact of their floor marking. For example, one application that almost every facility could benefit from, but may not have implemented, is installing emergency exit path markers that glow in the dark if the power goes out. PathFinder Glow Tape is easy to install and will guide people safely out of the building.

Floor marking is also a great opportunity to reinforce existing safety information that a worker or visitor might have forgotten or might not have noticed. These can be messages or symbols already present on walls or equipment. Adding them to the floor can reinforce those safety messages. For instance, facilities can place PathFinder Print Tape floor markers at entrance ways with a "Required PPE" symbol marker or a forklift traffic warning message.

## Improving Efficiency

The term "visual workplace" is often used to describe an environment where workers or visitors can easily understand how an area operates by observing labels, signs, and other visible wayfinding cues. In addition to the types of floor marking already discussed, this can include placards on walls or machinery showing procedures, signs with important reminders, equipment labels, and inventory management signs.

Instituting a visual workplace is usually part of a comprehensive lean manufacturing and 5S initiative. By placing critical workplace information at the point where it is most needed, manufacturing companies decrease waste, increase safety, and manage risk.

Floor marking is an important part of creating an effective visual workplace.

## Floor Marking & Wayfinding

Floor marking applications are part of a larger organizational philosophy called Wayfinding. Wayfinding encompasses all of the ways in which people orient themselves in a physical space and navigate from one place to another. Wayfinding principals are heavily used in public spaces such as airports, hospitals, and even hiking trails.

Wayfinding principals typically revolve around four stages:

<b>1 Orientation</b>	The attempt to determine one's location in relation to nearby objects
<b>2 Route Decision</b>	The selection of a course of direction to a particular destination
<b>3 Route Monitoring</b>	Checking to make sure the selected route continues toward the right destination
<b>4 Destination Recognition</b>	Confirming when the final destination has been reached

# FLOOR MARKING & WAYFINDING



Discover the path to safety for you and your workers



For our complete line of Floor Marking & Wayfinding products, visit us at [FloorMarking.com](http://FloorMarking.com) or call **877.534.5157**



Solutions for Safety & Visual Communication





# CHOOSING THE BEST FLOOR MARKING METHOD

There are two common floor marking methods: tape and paint. Advancement in adhesive tape technology and the amount of work that painting requires are reasons why tape is becoming the preferred choice for most industrial applications.



## FLOOR MARKING TAPE

**VS**

## TRADITIONAL PAINT



**No fumes**

**No time needed to dry**

**No spills**

**Up to 5 years, depending on traffic/exposure**

**Preparation requires only cleaning floor**

**Minimal application equipment required**

**No equipment required**

**Application does not usually interrupt work**

**Conforms to uneven surfaces such as concrete, asphalt, brick, & tile**

**Can be easily removed**

**Can be quickly applied**

**Fumes require ventilation, the wearing of PPE, & possible facility shutdown**

**Needs time to dry**

**Spills likely**

**Up to 7 years, depending on traffic/exposure**

**Extensive preparation time**

**May require brushes &/or rollers, taping, drop cloths, etc.**

**Difficult to do straight or curving lines by hand**

**Application will usually disrupt work for extended period**

**Uneven surfaces may require treatment to make surfaces smooth enough to paint**

**Requires harsh chemicals or abrasive machines for removal**

**Not designed for quick application**

# CHOOSING THE BEST TAPE

All safety tapes are not created equal. Heavy vehicles like forklifts can put an immense amount of pressure and friction on the floor. It's important to choose floor tape durable enough to stand up to industrial levels of wear and tear.

## Choosing the Best Tape for You

PathFinder offers a line of floor marking, wayfinding, and safety tapes to handle a range of diverse applications. The product categories include: Heavy Duty, Tread, Reflect, Glow, and Print.















If you are in charge of implementing a floor marking project, you should spend some time comparing the characteristics of different tapes and determine which will work best for your facility.

Another method of determining the best tape solution for your facility is to conduct a test by placing different types of tape in several areas in your facility. Leave them for a few weeks and see how they hold up during normal traffic. To simulate harsher wear and tear, you could use a forklift to rotate a tire on the tape.

Visit [FloorMarking.com](http://FloorMarking.com) for the entire assortment of PathFinder floor marking tapes and wayfinding solutions. Call Graphic Products at 877.534.5157 for more information or to request a free sample.

## Types of PathFinder Tapes

The following table shows the many types of floor marking tapes and their applications. All of these PathFinder floor marking tapes are available from Graphic Products at [FloorMarking.com](http://FloorMarking.com).

 <b>RIGID</b> Floor Marking Tape	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Heavy duty aisle marking in most demanding environments</li><li>• Withstands heavy pallet &amp; forklift abuse</li></ul>
 <b>LITE</b> Floor Marking Tape	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mark walls, aisles, workspaces &amp; around hazards like machinery or ledges</li><li>• Good for light to moderate foot traffic</li><li>• Also available laminated</li></ul>
 <b>FLEX</b> Floor Marking Tape	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Medium duty aisle marking</li><li>• Able to handle occasional forklift traffic</li></ul> <p><i>Compliance/Regulations:</i> CFR 1910.22(B)(2)</p>
 <b>GLOW</b> Floor Marking Tape	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Low light, limited visibility areas</li><li>• Emergency exits, passageways, staircases, ramps, &amp; landings</li></ul>
 <b>REFLECT</b> Floor Marking Tape	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Delineators, pole wraps, fences, general job site safety</li><li>• Great for labeling equipment and vehicles when high visibility is required</li><li>• Also available in Engineer grade, High Intensity Prismatic, Conspicuity, Stick-On Shapes, &amp; SOLAS</li></ul> <p><i>Compliance/Regulations:</i> ASTM D-4956-99 Reflectivity Type I; ASTM D-4956 Type VII; DOT 2/NHTSA; SOLAS (Safety of Life at Sea)/IMO compliant International Maritime Organization regulation, IMO Res. A.658, U.S. Coast Guard specification 46 CFR Part 164, Subpart 164.018/5/0, U.S. Coast Guard Specification G-Sec-393A</p>
 <b>TREAD</b> Floor Marking Tape	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• General purpose indoor &amp; outdoor use</li><li>• Ideal for stairs, ledges, &amp; around machinery</li><li>• Also available in Standard, Coarse, Extra Coarse, Non-Abrasive Standard, Non-Abrasive Coarse, Conformable, Glow, Steps, &amp; Bolt Down Plates</li></ul> <p><i>Compliance/Regulations:</i> OSHA 1910.24(f); Mil-W_5044C Type IV; OSHA 1910.26; ANSI B101.1; NSF1</p>
 <b>PRINT</b> Floor Marking Tape	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Preprinted with thick overlamine</li><li>• Order customized preprint tape</li><li>• Create customized preprint tape with a DuraLabel Printer</li></ul>

# REGULATIONS & STANDARDS

Slips, trips, and falls constitute the majority of general industry accidents. They cause 15% of all accidental deaths, and are second to motor vehicles as a cause of fatalities, according to OSHA. Despite the risks involved, there aren't many laws that dictate how you should implement floor marking, but there are many established guidelines and popular practices.

## OSHA Clarification

Floor marking is mentioned in OSHA 29 CFR 1910.22, titled "Walking-Working Surfaces." It reads: "Permanent aisles and passageways shall be appropriately marked."

In a follow-up interpretation to this, OSHA clarified that this rule does not necessarily mean that floor markings are required (for example, a dirt floor would be near-impossible to apply tape or paint to), and that there are other methods of appropriately marking aisles and passageways. The interpretation pointed out that applying floor marking was typically the most convenient and inexpensive method of meeting that requirement.

Another important OSHA interpretation regards aisle-marking sizes:

<p>The lines used to delineate the aisles may be any color so long as they clearly define the area considered as aisle</p>	
<p>The recommended width of aisle markings varies from 2" to 6". To ensure maximum visibility, any width 2" or more is considered acceptable</p>	
<p>The recommended width of aisles is at least 3' wider than the largest equipment to be utilized, or a minimum of 4'</p>	

## Regulations on Color

The United States has no specific regulations regarding floor marking colors, unless you are using floor marking to signal physical hazards or emergency safety equipment. OSHA standard 29 CFR 1910.144, titled the "Safety color code for marking physical hazards," sets requirements for using the colors red and yellow for very specific applications<sup>1</sup>.

The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) standard Z535 sets forth a widely-adopted system for presenting safety and accident prevention information. These are not mandatory standards; they are recommended best practices. And, as with OSHA's standard, there are no specific guidelines for floor marking colors, unless the floor marking is being used for preventing physical injuries.

ANSI Z535 used to include very specific guidelines for color-coding safety hazards, such as the use of red for danger and stop; orange for intermediate levels of danger; yellow for caution; green for safety, egress and first aid equipment; and blue for informational signs. In 2002, ANSI removed this list of specific color applications from the Z535 standard. However, the colors have remained popular as a general guideline in many industries, including as a guideline for floor marking. The 2011 Z535 standard only retains a few basic color recommendations, such as the use of red for danger, orange for warning and yellow for caution<sup>2</sup>.

While regulations are lacking, consistency is key. Maintaining a consistent floor marking color system will ensure your employees understand walking-working surfaces and potential hazards on the job.

<sup>1</sup> According to OSHA 29 CFR 1910.144, red shall be the basic color for the following: identification of fire protection equipment and apparatus; safety cans or other portable containers of flammable liquids having a flash point at or below 80 °F; table containers of flammable liquids, excluding shipping containers; red lights at barricades and temporary obstructions; danger signs. Emergency stop bars, buttons or electrical switches on hazardous machines are also required to be red. Yellow is required to be the basic color for designating caution and for marking physical hazards such as: striking against, stumbling, falling, tripping and "caught in between."

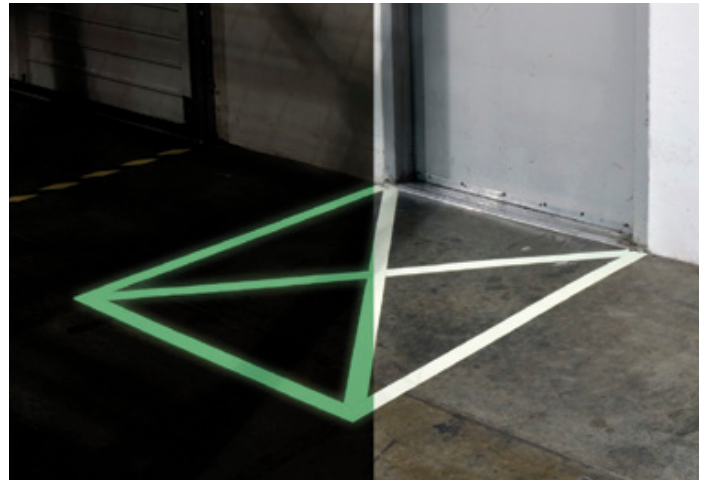
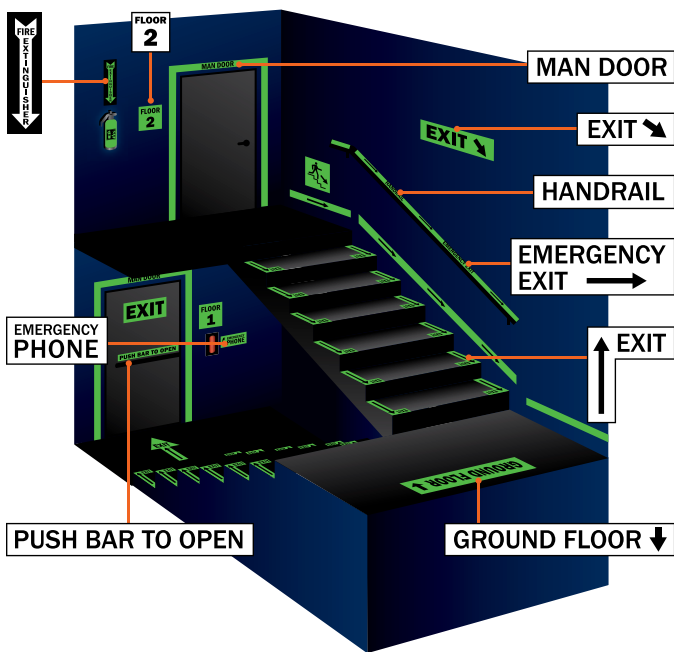
<sup>2</sup> 2011 ANSI Z535

## REGULATIONS & STANDARDS

### Marking with Glow Tape

Glow-in-the-dark labeling materials allow for clearly marked exit pathways even in the event of power outages or smoky conditions. This technology is becoming increasingly popular in facilities. In some regions it is even legally required.

The technical name for “glow” materials is photoluminescent. Phosphorescent tape is a specific kind of photoluminescent tape that absorbs energy from a light source during normal operating conditions and glows when that light source is removed. The light that phosphorescent tape provides is not enough to illuminate an area, but it is enough to make paths and doors visible when lights go out.



Use PathFinder Glow tape to mark exits that can be seen in an emergency situation.

In 2004, New York City approved a building code law that made phosphorescent markings mandatory in emergency stairwells and at exit doors of commercial high-rise buildings 75 feet or taller. This was mainly a result of a report that indicated that glow-in-the-dark markings in the World Trade Center buildings played an important role in leading survivors to safety.

Since then, New York’s initiative has served as a model for similar revisions in other municipalities and organizations across America, including the State of Connecticut, the International Code Council (ICC), the California Building Code (CBC), and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). Make sure to check with the appropriate state, federal, or other regulatory agency.

Use PathFinder Glow tapes with DuraLabel BoldGlo Phosphorescent tapes for a complete facility egress solution.

An advertisement for FloorMarking.com. It features a computer monitor on the left displaying the website. In the center, the text reads "SHOP ONLINE FLOORMARKING.COM". Below this is the PathFinder logo, which consists of the letters "PF" in a stylized orange and black font, followed by the word "PATHFINDER" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. Underneath the logo is the tagline "The source for floor marking, wayfinding, and safety tape". On the right side, there is a QR code and a smartphone held by a hand, with the text "Scan to get started right from your smart phone!" next to it.

## Widely Used Floor Marking Colors & Patterns

While there are no specific floor marking color requirements, the following is a color-coding guide popular in many facilities.

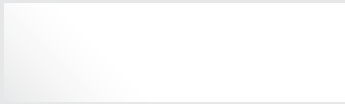
Keep in mind that this chart shows suggestions based on common uses. Your facility is free to create its own coloring and formatting style for floor marking. Just remember that your color-coding choices should be easy-to-understand and consistent across your organization.

### FLOOR MARKING COLOR/PATTERN CHART



**Yellow**

Commonly used for pedestrian and equipment traffic lanes, aisles, and pathways.



**White**

Used for general production to border machines, racks, workstations, and equipment.



**Red**

Often used as boundary for red tag areas, scrap, and defective inventory.



**Orange**

For holding materials or products, often for inspection.



**Black, Green,  
Blue, Purple**

Used for goods and materials management stages including raw materials, finished goods, and in-process manufacturing.



**Red/White  
Striping**

Identifies areas that need to be kept clear for safety such as equipment operations, electrical panels, and exits.



**Black/White  
Striping**

Identifies areas that must be kept clear for operations and workflow.



**Black/Yellow  
Striping**

Use in areas that present health hazards and danger, and require extra caution.

# TIPS ON FLOOR MARKING

Floor marking appears to be a simple procedure, and it's tempting to start applying tape immediately. But it is important to spend some time creating a plan and weighing your options. This will ensure you get the best results for your facility and workers. Find more information and helpful videos at [GraphicProducts.com/floor-marking](http://GraphicProducts.com/floor-marking).

## Applying Floor Marking Tape

If not applied correctly, even the best floor marking tape can peel off too quickly. This is usually because the floor was not cleaned adequately. The following steps will help ensure you get the best results:

1. Decide on where you want floor marking applied. Remove materials and equipment from the section of the floor that will be taped.
2. Sweep the floor to remove debris.
3. Clean the floor thoroughly with soap and water. Use other cleaning solutions (like isopropyl alcohol) if necessary to remove residue.
4. Let the floor dry.
5. If long straight lines are needed, use a length of string, laser pointer, or chalk line as a reference line.
6. Move down the reference line a few feet at a time, tacking the tape down as you go. Do not apply the tape over the line, keep it to the side.
7. Apply the tape evenly to ensure its adhesive fully bonds to the floor. This can be done with a dedicated tamping device or with any heavy rolling object that presses the tape down, like a forklift wheel.



Move the reference line down as you go and use a tamping device to ensure adhesive bonds to the surface.



A razor blade may be used to cut out the damaged section of the floor tape.

## Repairing Floor Marking Tape

If a portion of the floor tape has been damaged, follow these steps:

1. Use a razor blade to make cuts on either side of the damaged portion. Ensure the cuts run all the way through the tape in the width direction and try to make them as straight as possible.
2. Clean the floor thoroughly with soap and water. If residue remains on the floor, use a non-citrus based cleaner (like isopropyl alcohol) to remove it.
3. Cut off a piece of floor marking tape to replace the damaged area. Ensure that the length of the replacement piece matches the length of the damaged area to be sectioned out.
4. Remove the damaged area and replace it with the new piece.
5. Apply pressure to the new piece of tape to ensure the adhesive bonds to the floor.



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[FloorMarking.com/applicator](http://FloorMarking.com/applicator)

## Removing Floor Marking Tape

Your facility may require renovation or your production workflow may change; using tape makes it easier to alter your floor marking to match new situations. The following are steps used to remove floor marking tape easily, without making a mess.

1. Use a putty knife or razor blade to lift up the edge of the tape.
2. Pull the tape up slowly at a 90° or greater angle.
3. Be sure to pull the tape up evenly so that equal force is applied across the width of the tape. If there is unequal force on one part of the tape, it will be more likely to tear off in strips instead of coming off in one piece.
4. If residue remains on the floor, use a specialized cleaning solution (like isopropyl alcohol) and a mop to remove it.



## General Tips

Here are some recognized best practices:



Plan the locations of your floor markings extensively before placing the first piece of tape.



Encourage worker suggestions for floor marking improvements.



Use as few colors as possible to avoid confusion.



Choose colors and color patterns that will be easy to recognize and easy to tell apart. This usually means using contrasting colors and simple patterns.



Don't choose colors and color patterns that are too close to existing safety markings because that may confuse workers.



Don't use the color chosen for pathways for other floor marking applications; that could cause confusion about the correct path to take.



Don't cover up important items located on the floor. (like an access door or electrical outlet)



In some instances, corner markers may be used to identify an area. (For example, if you were marking off a box where product was intended to be stacked, you could use corner markers to show the edges of the square instead of using continuous tape for the entire outline)



Train all workers on the new color code system.



Post your floor marking color code system in an accessible location.

# SAMPLE FLOOR PLAN

Here is a sample facility floor plan that shows some real-world applications of floor marking and color-coding.



## Floor Marking Applications

- 1** Purple tape for finished goods
- 2** Black Printable tape for "5S Cart"
- 3** Black tape for part organization
- 4** Red/white striping for "keep clear" areas
- 5** Printable tape for traffic marking
- 6** White tape for work area
- 7** Green tape for part organization
- 8** PathFinder T's & Corners
- 9** Blue tape for pallet storage
- 10** Red tape for "red tag" areas
- 11** Stop sign for traffic
- 12** Black/yellow striping for hazardous areas
- 13** Yellow tape for traffic flow
- 14** Red/white hazard striping, electrical equipment
- 15** Green tape for safety area designation
- 16** Black/white striping for "keep clear" areas
- 17** Glow floor marking

## Label Applications

- 18** Fire safety label
- 19** Door safety sign
- 20** Emergency eye wash label
- 21** Dock identification
- 22** Forklift safety sign
- 23** Hazardous Materials Label
- 24** Rack & shelf labels
- 25** Shelf & bin labels



# FACILITY FLOOR MARKING INSPECTION

Is it possible your facility might benefit from new or more extensive floor marking? Walk around your facility and complete this inspection sheet. Your answers will give you ideas for improving your facility's floor marking.

Questions

Answers/Comments

## General

Does your facility have floor markings already in place?

Does your facility have a consistent, facility-wide color-coding system for its floor marking?

Are the chosen colors and color patterns easy to recognize and easy to tell apart?

Are the floor markings faded, torn or scuffed? Or are they in good shape?

If the floor marking includes text, are the words legible?

Are workers trained on what your facility's visual communication system is?

## Safety: Traffic Routes

Are exit routes and exit signs clearly marked so that workers will know where to go in the event of an emergency?

Are glow-in-the-dark materials used for exit route markings and signs?

Are pedestrian walkways clearly marked?

Are pathways and areas of operation for vehicles (e.g., forklifts, overhead cranes) clearly marked?

Do pedestrian walkways minimize interaction with vehicular traffic?

Are traffic intersections clearly marked?

## Safety: Marking Hazards

Does hazardous equipment have floor marking indicating dangerous areas?

Does hazardous electrical equipment have floor marking indicating its hazard boundaries?

## FACILITY FLOOR MARKING INSPECTION

### Safety: Marking Hazards (cont.)

Do areas where hazardous material containers or compressed gas cylinders are stored have floor marking indicating the hazards present?

Do any other potentially-hazardous areas of the facility have floor marking to indicate the danger?

Are there areas where corrosive chemicals are present? Will these areas require more durable floor marking materials?

Do fire extinguishers, safety showers, first aid stations, etc., have floor markings around them that prevent people from blocking those areas?

Are there any areas with frequent injuries or near-misses that could benefit from floor marking?

### Organization/Efficiency

Are there problems with wasted time due to workers not knowing where equipment, tools, materials or products are located?

Are there outlines used to mark the location of portable equipment and tools?

For stacking or storage of materials, is there a floor marking system in place that allows workers to easily tell the materials apart?

Do areas that must remain open for workflow purposes have floor marking that communicates that?

### Miscellaneous

Are there areas where worker errors frequently occur? Could those areas benefit from additional visual communication in the form of floor marking?

Are there areas where there is frequent lost time due to worker confusion? Could those areas benefit from floor marking?

Are there areas where floor marking could be used to communicate an often overlooked rule or situation? (Example: "Caution: crane operates in this area.")

Are there small floor-located items (e.g., electrical outlets, access doors) that could be made more visible with floor marking?

# WHY CHOOSE PATHFINDER?

In this guide you've learned the importance of floor marking and some of the ways it is used to increase workplace safety and efficiency.

## A Trusted Source

PathFinder floor marking, wayfinding, and safety tape is a brand of Graphic Products, a trusted leader in providing solutions for safety and visual communication since 1970. If you are beginning a floor marking project at your facility, it's important to consider all of your options. There are many tapes and accessories to choose from and they are not all created equal. To get the best results, use a trusted brand that offers a wide variety of tapes for many types of applications.

For a complete list of PathFinder tapes and accessories, visit [FloorMarking.com](http://FloorMarking.com)

## More from Graphic Products

Graphic Products also has a huge catalog of visual communication solutions for any facility project, including our popular DuraLabel line of industrial label and sign printers. We have experienced customer support staff available for any type of question. Give us a call at 877.534.5157 or visit us at [GraphicProducts.com](http://GraphicProducts.com).



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