BenchMATE series

A guide to measuring the gap between your front and back labels

When labelling front and back labels on our manual BenchMATE machines, there's an eye indicator in place to show you how to rotate the container after applying the first label, as seen here or in this QR code:

Unless we have otherwise specified, your labels will be left edge leading, 'outside wound' as shown below with the traditional 3mm gap between labels which we always recommend in our electric machines:

Some customers may choose to build the label gap into their labels as the alternate on the roll, as shown below:

Building the gap into the die-cut on you labels allows extra speed and ease of use in all of our manual label applicators.

Labels are cut into shape from a long strip of material, meaning everything outside of your chosen label size (die-cut) is discarded as wastepaper.

Due to this, it's more economical to get the gap built in between your front and back labels, so you apply both labels in one smooth rotation, but to keep a much smaller 3mm gap between the back and front label, as in the above second image. All our manual machines have an indicator which will show your operator when to stop applying a set of labels.

Use the following formula to calculate the gap in between your labels to provide to your label maker:

1. **Find your container diameter on the specification sheet provided by the supplier.**
   If you haven't been supplied specifications or can't locate them online, you can measure the container with a vernier, however this is less accurate, as all glass containers have a small +/- change in diameter.

   For example, this 700ml Belle bottle from UniquePak has a 94mm diameter with a +/- of 1.9mm.
   We'll continue to use this bottle as an example on the following calculations.

2. **Determine the circumference of your bottle by multiplying the diameter by Pi (3.14).**
   For the Belle bottle example, this equation is 94mm x 3.14 = 295mm circumference.

3. **Add the combined length of your front and back label together**.
   For example, you may have a 90mm long front label and a 50mm long back label, which equals a combined 140mm total label length.

4. **Subtract the combined length of your labels from the circumference.**
   In our example, this equation is **295mm** (circumference) **-140mm** (combined label length) **= 155mm**.
   This is how much space is left on your bottle once labels are applied.

5. **Divide this amount in half.**
   In this example, that would be 77.5mm which is the gap between each label.

If you or your label maker have any questions, don't hesitate to contact us for assistance.