



# Technical Data Sheet

Revision: March 1, 2024  
Supersedes: June 15, 2023  
Ref. #: 701968

## Big Gaps & Cracks Insulating Foam



### DESCRIPTION

GE branded Big Gaps & Cracks Insulating Foam is a polyurethane-based sealant that expands into openings and voids larger than 1 inch to construct an airtight & weatherproof seal. It is versatile for interior and exterior projects. Foam sealant offers excellent adhesion to most building materials such as wood, concrete, and stone and is easy to use and apply with its attached straw applicator; no spray gun required. The cured foam can be trimmed, painted, sanded, and stained. This foam is excellent for spot insulating and touch-ups and ideal for construction, electrical, industrial, and plumbing projects.

#### Available as:

Item #	Package	Size	Color
2744168	Metal Aerosol Canister	12 fl. oz. (340 g)	White

### FEATURES & BENEFITS

- Expands & seals gaps greater than 1 inch
- Creates airtight & water-resistant seals
- Helps save energy by reducing drafts
- Seals out air, moisture, & pests
- Resistance to the elements without becoming brittle<sup>[1]</sup>
- Easy to use straw applicator, no spray gun required

### RECOMMENDED FOR

Big Gaps & Cracks Insulating Foam sealant is recommended for use around doors, windows, electrical outlets, utility panels, HVAC, ducts, pipes, base plates, joints, cracks, crawlspaces, foundations, and numerous additional applications. It can also be used to seal openings in roof constructions and insulation materials, creating soundproof screens, filling of cavities around pipes, and insulating wall panels and roof tiles.

**NOTE:** Not to be considered as a firestop

### LIMITATIONS

- Big Gaps & Cracks is not a fire stopping material and SHOULD NOT be used in areas that require fireproof or fire stopping materials
- Despite significantly higher UV resistance, it is still recommended to protect the foam from UV radiation. Exposed foam should be coated with a protective covering or coating<sup>[1]</sup>
- Does not bond well to polyethylene, Teflon® and on some other plastic surfaces
- In dry conditions, it is recommended to fill gaps in several layers by application of smaller foam strings (up to 3 inches thickness) and slightly moisturizing between every layer
- Do not store product on its side
- One-time use should be expected

<sup>[1]</sup> Weatherproof claim is only valid if foam is protected against UV exposure. It is recommended to cover with paint, stain, sealant, plaster, or mortar

### COVERAGE

A 12 fl. oz. (340 g) can will extrude a 3/8" bead approximately 780 ft. (238 m)

**Note:** Yields shown are based on theoretical calculations, for comparison purposes, and will vary depending on ambient conditions and particular application conditions, as well as particular application.



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## TECHNICAL DATA

Typical Uncured Physical Properties		Typical Application Properties	
<u>Color:</u>	White	<u>Application Temperature:</u>	Ambient conditions should be between 41°F (5°C) and 86°F (30°C). Can temperature must be between 41°F (5°C) and 86°F (30°C).
<u>Appearance:</u>	Polymer Foam	<u>Odor:</u>	Slight ether
<u>Base:</u>	Single component polyurethane	<u>Tack-Free Time:</u>	7 – 10 minutes* at 73°F (23°C) and 50% relative humidity
<u>Specific Gravity:</u>	1.0	<u>Cure Time:</u>	Approximately 24 hours*
<u>VOC Content:</u>	19.7% by weight      CARB 187 g/l                      SCAQMD rule 1168	<u>Cut Time:</u>	50 – 65 minutes*
<u>Shelf Life:</u>	18 months from date of manufacture (unopened)	<u>Clean Up:</u>	Clean up uncured foam residue with acetone. Scrape away cured sealant using a sharp-edged tool. Follow solvent manufacturer's precautions for using solvents.
<u>Lot Code Explanation:</u> PROD: MM/DD/YYYY or BEST BY: MM/DD/YYYY (located on bottom of cannister) MM = month of manufacture DD = day of manufacture YYYY = year of manufacture Example: PROD: 10/31/2018 = October 31, 2018 is the manufacture date Example: BEST BY: 10/31/2018 = Product performs best when used by October 31, 2018			

\*Time is dependent upon temperature, humidity, and depth of sealant applied.

## Typical Cured Performance Properties

<u>Color:</u>	White	<u>Service Temperature:</u>	-40°F (-40°C) to 194°F (90°C)
<u>Cured form:</u>	Flexible solid	<u>Dimensional Stability:</u>	< ±5% (TM 1004-2012)
<u>Water Resistance:</u>	Yes, after 24 hours	<u>Shear Strength:</u>	45 – 65 kPa
<u>Sandable:</u>	Yes	<u>Compression Strength:</u>	30 – 60 kPa
<u>Paintable:</u>	Yes, after 6 hours		

## DIRECTIONS

### Tools Typically Required:

Utility knife, painter's tape, or foil for protecting surfaces.

### Safety Precautions:

Always wear eye protection, gloves, and proper work clothes when using Big Gaps & Cracks. Protect surrounding work area from accidental foam overspray. Cured foam is difficult to remove from skin, clothing, and other substrates. May discolor skin. When transporting cans by passenger car leave the container wrapped in a cloth in the trunk, never in the passenger compartment.

### Surface Preparation:

Ensure all surfaces are stable, clean, and free from dirt, dust, oil, and other contaminants likely to impair adhesion. Surfaces can be moist but not frosted or iced. Cover surfaces not intended to be foamed. To ensure full and even curing of the foam on porous substrates (i.e., brickwork, concrete), moisturize surfaces with water spray before application.



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## DIRECTIONS

### **General Preparation:**

The temperature of the working area and the product should be between 41°F (5°C) and 86°F (30°C). When working in cold conditions, can should be stored above 41°F (5°C) at least 12 hours before application. Shake can vigorously before use for 30 seconds (15-20 times minimum). Screw the foaming straw applicator completely onto the can valve using caution to avoid activating the valve. The outflow rate of the foam can be adjusted by pressing and releasing the trigger.

**Note:** to become familiar with the product, test on an experimental surface by inverting can and slowly depressing the trigger to dispense foam. Continue use in an inverted orientation.

### **Application:**

Holding can upside down, press the trigger which controls outflow rate of the foam. Dispense the foam sparingly, filling the joint initially by half to avoid excessive overflows, as foam will expand. Shake can regularly during use. Slight misting with water can speed cure. Release trigger 5 seconds before the end point but keep straw end moving. For deep section application, allow the first layer of foam to cure before applying a second layer. Foam can be trimmed with a knife after an hour. Foam will be fully cured in approximately 24 hours. It is recommended foam be protected from UV radiation by a protective covering or coating such as paint, plaster, mortar, etc. to avoid discoloration.

**Note:** Ambient temperature and humidity can affect foam curing and maximal joint width. In dry conditions, to get the best foam structure and properties, it is recommended to fill gaps and joints in several layers by the application of smaller foam strings (up to 1-inch thickness). At very dry conditions, the foam may be brittle after hardening. This brittleness is a temporary effect and disappears after a while or by warming up.

### **Clean-up:**

Clean tools and uncured foam residue immediately with acetone. Cured foam must be carefully cut away with a sharp-edged tool.

## STORAGE & DISPOSAL

Product must be stored vertically, not horizontally on its side.

Store in a cool, dry place for maximum performance and shelf life. Do not store below -4°F (-20°C). Below this temperature the product valve may spontaneously open, resulting in leakage. Product may be stored for a maximum of 1 week at -4°F (-20°C). For extended storage periods (longer than 1 week), store between 41°F and 77°F (5°C and 25°C).

Containers are under pressure. Do not expose to open flame or temperatures above 120°F (49°C). Do not store under direct sunlight. Excessive heat can cause bursting and premature aging of components resulting in shorter shelf life. When containers are empty, vent off any excess pressure. DO NOT discard empty can in garbage compactor. DO NOT incinerate. DO NOT puncture, cut, or weld container.

**Recommended method of disposal for unused product:** Vent off excess pressure and dispose of in an appropriate waste receptacle. Dispose of according to federal, state, and local governmental regulations.



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## LABEL PRECAUTIONS

**DANGER!** EXTREMELY FLAMMABLE. VAPOR MAY CAUSE FLASH FIRE. VAPOR AND SPRAY MIST HARMFUL, OVEREXPOSURE MAY CAUSE LUNG DAMAGE. MAY CAUSE ALLERGIC RESPIRATORY AND SKIN REACTION. CONTENTS UNDER PRESSURE.

**DANGER!** Contains methylenediphenyldiisocyanate, dimethylether, chlorinated paraffin and hydrocarbon propellant mixture. Do not use near sparks, heat, or open flame. Vapors will accumulate readily and may ignite explosively. Ventilate area during use and until all vapors are gone. **DO NOT SMOKE WHILE USING.** Extinguish all ignition sources. If burned, dried foam may release hazardous decomposition products. Dried foam may be combustible if exposed to flame or temperatures above 240°F. Avoid prolonged exposure to sunlight or heat from radiators, stoves, hot water, and other sources of heat that may cause bursting. Do not puncture, incinerate, burn, or store above 120°F. Do not discard empty can in garbage compactor. Gives off harmful vapor of solvents and isocyanates. Do not use if you have chronic lung or breathing problems, or if you have ever had a reaction to isocyanates. Use with adequate ventilation. Use appropriate respiratory protection when potential to exceed exposure limits exists. If you have breathing problems during use, leave the area and get fresh air. If symptoms develop or persist, call a doctor or obtain medical treatment; have this label with you. **EYE AND SKIN IRRITANT.** Avoid contact with eyes and skin. Prolonged or repeated skin contact may lead to sensitization and dermatitis. Wash hands after using. Do not swallow. Intentional misuse by deliberately concentrating and inhaling the contents may be harmful or fatal.

**FIRST AID:** For eye contact flush with water for 15 minutes. Call a physician if irritation develops and persists. For skin contact, wipe off excess uncured foam with a clean rag or paper towel immediately. Get medical attention if irritation develops and persists. If affected by inhalation, remove to fresh air and contact a physician. If swallowed, do not induce vomiting. Call a physician or Poison Control Center immediately. **KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN.**



**WARNING: Cancer and Reproductive Harm – [www.P65Warnings.ca.gov](http://www.P65Warnings.ca.gov)**

Refer to the Safety Data Sheet (SDS) for further information

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