
Subject: I can't believe it's not rubber....

Posted by [nancyliang](#) on Thu, 17 May 2012 19:58:35 GMT

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<http://www.shapeways.com/blog/archives/1375-Introducing-3D-Printed-Black-Elasto-Plastic-I-Cant-Believe-Its-Not-Rubber.html>

It squishes, it stretches, and erases pencil drawings.... I'm happy to announce that starting today, Shapeways will enable you to print in our first stretchy squishy material!

Check out the above link for more details and some design inspirations.

The rules are flexible and subject to change, since this is an experimental material. Don't be afraid to stretch your imagination! </endbadpuns>

Enjoy!
Nancy

Subject: Re: I can't believe it's not rubber....

Posted by [pfeiffer stylez](#) on Fri, 18 May 2012 09:33:56 GMT

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Is Bowie printable in Black Elasto ?

(Let's make that bunny dancing like this "MyKeepon" thing.)

Subject: Re: I can't believe it's not rubber....

Posted by [nancyliang](#) on Fri, 18 May 2012 18:26:26 GMT

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Sure is! Though, there's a bunny in 1.0mm and one in 2.0mm, the minimum wall thickness for this is 1.5mm, so I'd recommend using the 2.0mm version--though it will be a bit stiffer (maybe see if the designer can design a version that's 1.5mm thick?)

Subject: Re: I can't believe it's not rubber....
Posted by [nancyliang](#) on Fri, 18 May 2012 18:29:21 GMT
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Here's the link: <http://www.shapeways.com/model/97938/bowie-the-bunny-2mm-thick.html>

(You might have to ping the designer and ask to enable the Elastic material first)

Check out some of the other items.. the bunny isn't the only cute thing in the shop!

Subject: Re: I can't believe it's not rubber....
Posted by [opresco](#) on Tue, 22 May 2012 17:27:03 GMT
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I didn't quite catch the connotation of "this my keupon thing"
And, BTW, where are the winners of the FlexTest contest posted?

Subject: Re: I can't believe it's not rubber....
Posted by [Youknowwho4eva](#) on Tue, 22 May 2012 17:31:29 GMT
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Flex test contest!

Subject: Re: I can't believe it's not rubber....
Posted by [BAROBA](#) on Wed, 06 Jun 2012 14:10:02 GMT
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I have made the new flexible material available as a option.

Cheers,

Rob

Subject: Re: I can't believe it's not rubber....
Posted by [aeron203](#) on Sun, 10 Jun 2012 18:34:51 GMT

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I am excited about designing with this great new material. I have one request, and I'd like to hear what others think.

It would be great if the material was light gray in color. That would make the grainy appearance of the material less visible, and would prevent it from looking dirty when used for functional items like phone cases (one of the main problems with WSF material). It would also make it clear, in photos of multi-part designs, which material is being used where. Finally, light gray would photograph very well.

Subject: Re: I can't believe it's not rubber....
Posted by [natalia](#) on Mon, 11 Jun 2012 16:08:21 GMT
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Hi Aaron,

The color of the flex material is actually part of its structure, so for now, we can't change the color as it is a coating integral to its properties.

So there is no option to change the color in Flex, sorry about that!

For now, if you are seeking color options you could use WSF in black red or purple, full color sandstone or ceramics.

Best,
Natalia

Subject: Re: I can't believe it's not rubber....
Posted by [aeron203](#) on Mon, 11 Jun 2012 17:50:34 GMT
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Thank you for your reply Natalia.

It would be great if Nancy could interact directly since this is her area of expertise.

I assume Shapeways is using 3DSystems Duraform Flex material, infiltrated with Flex Seal 2-part urethane. While it is true that Flex Seal is only available in Black, Red, Yellow, Blue, and Natural

White, the spec sheet says they can be mixed to create custom colors. Take a look at the brochure here:

http://www.rpc.msoe.edu/datasheets/sls/Duraform_Flex.pdf

Just to make things super easy for you all I've attached the brochure and a embedded a screenshot with the relevant information.

The material comes in 1kg cans, and I'm sure Shapeways will go through a lot of it if they offer it in a useful color. Simply mixing 3 cans of white with each can of black would give you a material that is actually useful for end-use products.

Just my two cents as one of your customers.

File Attachments

1) [Duraform_Flex.pdf](#), downloaded 41 times

Subject: Re: I can't believe it's not rubber....

Posted by [Youknowwho4eva](#) on Mon, 11 Jun 2012 18:01:42 GMT

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As always, if you want it, add it to feedback and get everyone that feels the same to vote it up.

<http://feedback.shapeways.com/forums/111989-shapeways-feedback>

Subject: Re: I can't believe it's not rubber....

Posted by [aeron203](#) on Mon, 11 Jun 2012 18:45:02 GMT

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Good call, Mike. I added to the feedback section here:

<http://feedback.shapeways.com/forums/111989-shapeways-feedback/suggestions/2918769-appropriate-color-for-elasto-material>

Subject: Re: I can't believe it's not rubber....
Posted by [nancyliang](#) on Mon, 11 Jun 2012 19:16:03 GMT
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Hey Aaron!

Natalia is right in that the color adds structural strength to the product, but you are also right that there are other color infiltrants we can use.. possibly even gray.

Currently, though, we are learning a lot from this material but more colors is definitely on the list if we get some other issues solved first. Right now, the design rules are pretty conservative and we are looking at a bunch of designs incoming that unfortunately are too thin to be printed. We're trying to brainstorm some better way to communicate design rules or draw attention to these things so models that gets submitted are printable models.

Open to suggestions!

(then we can get on to more colors)

Subject: Re: I can't believe it's not rubber....
Posted by [aeron203](#) on Mon, 11 Jun 2012 20:02:35 GMT
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Thanks, Nancy.

I spoke with you and the whole team about this in January, in great detail. That is an awful long time to be brainstorming. I can help. Send me an email.

Subject: Re: I can't believe it's not rubber....
Posted by [crsdf](#) on Tue, 12 Jun 2012 10:32:05 GMT
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aeron203 wrote on Mon, 11 June 2012 17:50

I assume Shapeways is using 3DSystems Duraform Flex material, infiltrated with Flex Seal 2-part urethane. While it is true that Flex Seal is only available in Black, Red, Yellow, Blue, and Natural White, the spec sheet says they can be mixed to create custom colors. Take a look at the brochure here:

http://www.rpc.msoe.edu/datasheets/sls/Duraform_Flex.pdf

AFAIK it's probably ALM's TPE-210 S. Though they're very similar.

Subject: Re: I can't believe it's not rubber....
Posted by [SDabbs](#) on Thu, 14 Jun 2012 10:08:56 GMT
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Has anybody tried painting this material yet? What is the best paint to use?

Thanks!

Subject: Re: I can't believe it's not rubber....
Posted by [hmbpm](#) on Thu, 11 Sep 2014 07:27:58 GMT
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Does anyone know how much the DuraDorm Flex Seal infiltrant costs and where or if I can buy it?
I searched all over the internet but couldn't find anything...
