

Bagging and Heatsealing

This task includes the use of an industrial heatsealer.



Materials

- 360 chips (A)
- 500 plastic bags (B)
- 1 heatsealer (C)
- 3 blue single-compartment bins
- 1 large single-compartment bin
- 1 red storage bin
- scissors and wastebasket
(for disassembly, not included)

Setup

Place the three blue bins, each holding chips of one color, on the table to the left. Place the bin holding the plastic bags and the heatsealer in the center. Place the empty red storage bin on the right. Plug in the heatsealer. Set the dial on the heatsealer between 5 and 6.

Procedure

- Take one bag. Hold it with one hand and open it by inserting the other hand into the bag.
- While holding the bag open, take 5 chips of one color and drop them into the bag.
- Repeat with the other 2 colors until there are 15 chips in the bag. There should be 5 each of the 3 colors in the bag.
- To settle the chips in the bag, lift the bag about 2 inches off the table and drop it on the table while still holding the top of the bag.
- Place the bag in front of the heatsealer with the open end parallel to the heatsealer.
- Position the open end of the bag between the arm and the base of the heatsealer. Hold the bag in position by pressing the top of the bag against the back side of the heatsealer base. Position the top of the bag so the seal will be ½ to 1½ inches from the open end of the bag and hold with one hand.
- Press the heatsealer arm down to the base with the other hand and hold until the red timing light on the heatsealer goes off (less than one second) and then release the sealing arm.
- Place the sealed bag in the red storage bin. No arrangement of the completed units in the bin is necessary.
- Repeat all the steps until all the chips are bagged and sealed.

The bags can be reused once or twice. Used bags may be easier to open and take longer to position for sealing, thereby altering the Norms for the task. When timing for baseline norms or retesting, use new bags.

Norms:

Per unit – 25 seconds
Per task (24 units) – 10 minutes

Quality Criteria

Each bag must contain 15 chips, 5 each of 3 colors. The bags must be completely sealed, 1½ inches or less from the open end of the bag.

Heatsealing Disassembly

Setup

Disassembly does not require the heatsealer. It does require a pair of scissors and a wastebasket (not included). Select a type of scissors appropriate to the safety skill level of the worker. Position the three blue bins in the center of the table. Place the scissors in the center front and the red storage bin on the right. Place the large single-compartment bin on the left and the wastebasket on the floor to the left of the worker.

Procedure

- Remove one bag from the red storage bin and place it flat on the table so the seal line is perpendicular to the front edge of the table.
- Take the scissors in one hand and hold a corner of the sealed end of the bag in the other hand.
- Cut the bag with the scissors just below the seal line and along the full width of the bag.
- Put down the scissors. Pick up the bag strip and drop it into the wastebasket.
- Dump the chips onto the table.
- Flatten the bag and place it in the single-compartment bin.
- Place the chips in the correct blue bins according to color.
- Repeat the previous steps until all the bags are empty and all the chips are color-sorted in the blue bins.

Norms:

Per unit – 20 seconds
Per task (24 units) – 8 minutes

Quality Criteria

The empty bags must be cut below the seal line. Straightness of the cut line is not a quality criterion. All the plastic chips must be separated by color and placed in the blue bins.