

1. How long does one strip of DynaCleft last, and can it be used overnight?

Each DynaCleft strip lasts approximately 1-2 days, although on dry skin it may stay on longer. It is intended to be used continuously (day and night) until surgical cleft lip repair. Some parents find that a strip lasts longer if they apply after feeding.

2. The adhesive on the DynaCleft is very strong and is difficult to remove from my child's cheeks. What can I do to help this?

Skin types vary widely and DynaCleft can be difficult to remove from dry skin. The adhesive will lose some tack if you stick it to your fingers a few times before you apply it on your child's cheeks. When removing, make sure to peel the outside edges and roll towards the elastic (see #10). You can also try using a protective skin barrier film or dressing under the DynaCleft to prevent irritation (see #4).

3. The adhesive on the DynaCleft is too weak and is not sticking to my child's cheeks. How can I get DynaCleft to stick better?

Skin types vary widely and DynaCleft can sometimes not stick as well to oilier skin. DynaCleft adheres best to skin that is damp and then dries. Adhesion can be increased by gently, but firmly, pressing the tape to the skin or by dampening the skin with water, patting dry, then applying DynaCleft. Most people will notice increased adhesion within 5 minutes.

The adhesive used in DynaCleft is "pressure sensitive", meaning that it adheres best when gentle, but firm, finger or hand pressure is applied to the tape, rubbing it into place. The surface of skin has natural "hills" and "valleys". Simply laying tape on skin results in contact with only the top of these "hills". Gentle but firm strokes along the tape guides adhesive into contact with more of the "valleys" as well, improving initial adhesion and decreasing the risk of "rolling" or losing the tape to friction.

To maximize adhesion:

- Start with clean, dry skin
- Avoid touching the sticky surface of the tape
- Apply sufficient pressure to the tape to ensure contact in all of the nooks and crannies of the skin
- Ensure good contact with the skin so that moisture cannot seep in and loosen the adhesion
- Remove any traces of emollients or oils, such as most moisturizers and adhesive tape removers
- If the skin is very oily, use a mild soap and water to remove the excess oil and pat dry. An alcohol wipe may also be used to remove excess oil, but use sparingly to avoid drying out sensitive skin.
- A barrier film or dressing can be used under the tape to protect sensitive skin (see #4)

Note: If the small sections beside the elastic are not sticking (after feeding or drooling, for example), you can continue to leave DynaCleft in place as long as the elastic is still stretched and most of the tape ends are still attached to the cheeks.

4. My child's skin is getting red and/or bumpy where the adhesive sits. What can I do to help this?

Over-stretching the elastic can put too much tension on the skin, causing red or bumpy irritation. Also, the repeated application and removal of any adhesive product can irritate sensitive skin. A skin barrier film or dressing can be used as a protective barrier under DynaCleft. You can also take a break from using DynaCleft for two days, or until the skin heals, then continue use. If irritation occurs you should consult your physician/orthodontist.

5. The elastic breaks while my child is wearing DynaCleft. Why?

The elastic can be damaged by exceeding the recommended tension as described in the Instructions for Use. Do not stretch the elastic more than double the original unstretched length, or 1/4" (6mm). There should be enough stretch left in the elastic that the baby can smile comfortably and move their mouth.

6. My child is able to pull off the DynaCleft from his/her face. What can I do to help avoid this?

Consult your nurse or physician about ways to keep your child's fingers away from the DynaCleft tapes (i.e. mittens or socks on the hands, arm stabilizing sleeves, swaddling, etc).

7. The elastic seems to lose its strength over time. Why?

There are two possible explanations. Either the elastic is relaxing as the skin stretches into position, in which case it is time to replace the DynaCleft, or there is damage to the elastic because of over-tensioning. Do not stretch the elastic more than double the original unstretched length, or 1/4" (6mm).

8. Can DynaCleft be used together with a NAM appliance?

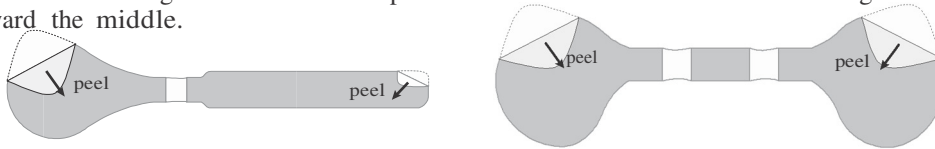
Although DynaCleft is compatible with NAM appliances, it is not intended to be used to hold the appliance in place. If your child's orthodontist or other clinician considers a NAM appliance necessary, DynaCleft can be used with the appliance to address the lip segment approximation. In many cases however, DynaCleft used with the Southmedic Nasal Elevator (DCNE-01 or DCNE-02) can achieve similar results. Your child's clinician can tell you how DynaCleft can be used to optimize your child's pre-surgical treatment, or you can contact Southmedic directly for more information (see contact information below).

9. What if I used a moisturizer (cream) or an adhesive remover and need to tape over the same area?

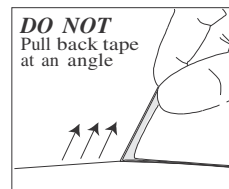
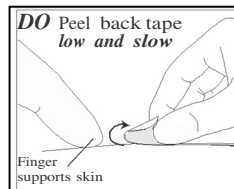
Assess the skin. If you recently used a skin product and it still feels slick, you may need to cleanse the area. Some specially-designed moisturizers (creams) allow you to tape over it immediately and may actually increase adhesion of some tapes. If this is the case, it is important to use good technique for subsequent tape removal (see #10 below). You may wish to protect areas that will be exposed to repeated taping with a barrier film or dressing.

10. What is the best way to remove tape?

Proper tape removal is critical to reduce the possibility of harm to skin. First, loosen the upper edges of the tape. Stabilize the skin with one finger. Peel back the tape "low and slow" in the direction of hair growth from the top outside then down toward the middle.



Keep the tape close to the skin surface and pull back over itself. Removing tape at an angle may cause pain and damage skin. As the tape is removed, continue to apply a slight counter-pressure with one finger to support the skin.



For tape that is strongly adhered to skin or hair, you may want to consider using a cream or moisturizer to soften the adhesive. Rubbing alcohol will not soften the adhesive. Peel a small edge of the tape back. Supporting the skin next to the tape, glide a small amount of cream or moisturizer under the peeled edge. This is often enough to soften the adhesive and release it from hair. Continue to peel back the tape "low and slow", back over itself while applying the moisturizer.

11. When should we stop using DynaCleft?

DynaCleft should be used until the baby's first cleft repair surgery.

***Beware that DynaCleft can over-approximate the alveolar segments, bringing them closer together than is desirable and making palate repair more difficult. Please follow your physician's guidance on how close together the segments should be by the time of surgery (usually no closer than 1/8" or 3mm). If the alveolar segments are approximated before the surgery, DynaCleft can be applied without tension, or just part-time to maintain the new position.*

Order Information

Description	Part Number
DynaCleft® Unilateral, 1.25" x 4.5" (7 pcs/pouch)	DCX10
DynaCleft® Bilateral, 1.25" x 3.5" (7 pcs/pouch)	DCX20

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Rx only

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