

ANIMAL CARE SOLUTIONS: FAQ: VETERINARY: X-RAY

1. What film is compatible with our cassettes?

Any green-sensitive film will work in the 3M cassettes. To get optimum (guaranteed) quality, however, a 3M green light sensitive film should be used.

2. What is the Buy One-Get One program?

The Buy One-Get One program is a film purchase contract between a veterinary practice and 3M. When you purchase a cassette, you can get one cassette free (same size or smaller). This program requires a commitment to purchase 3M Veterinary X-ray Film for one year (minimum \$1000.00).

3. Why am I not getting clear radiographs?

- Incorrect light compatibility (X-ray film is not matched to the correct intensifying screens)
- If the cassettes are new, be sure the paper is removed from the cassettes.
- If processing manually, make sure the chemistry is fresh (within 4-6 weeks old) and stirred frequently.
- If using an automatic processor, make sure that it is serviced on a regular basis
- If the cassettes have been in service for over 10 years, consider replacing them.
- Lower grade film may appear grainy and lack detail. 3M film is a premium quality film that will produce radiographs with superior detail.

4. Which cassette is recommended for small animal use? Large animal use?

The type of cassette you choose should be based on your maximum machine settings:

3M™ Asymetrix™ Detail Screens:

- Small animal: Recommended for x-ray machines with ≥ 200 mA capacity (tabletop and grid radiography)
- Equine: Recommended for use with a high-frequency portable x-ray machine

3M™ Asymetrix™ Fast Detail Screens:

- Small animal: Recommended for x-ray machines with < 200 mA capacity (tabletop and grid radiography)
- Equine: Recommended for use with a non-high-frequency portable x-ray machine

5. Which film should I use?

With green-light emitting screens, the following 3M X-ray film is recommended:

- 3M™ Ultra Detail Plus Veterinary X-ray Film
- 3M™ Ultimate 2000 Veterinary X-ray Film
- 3M™ SE+ Veterinary X-ray Film

With blue-light emitting screens, the following 3M X-ray film is recommended:

- 3M™ Standard Blue Veterinary X-ray Film.

6. What are the benefits of 3M Ultra Detail Plus film?

- High contrast
- High detail (premium zero crossover film)
- Fast! (550 speed with Asymetrix Fast Detail screens)

- General purpose (for all anatomy – all species)

7. What are the benefits of Ultimate 2000 film?

- Medium contrast
- High detail (premium zero crossover film)
- Wide Latitude (50% exposure/forgiveness tolerance)
- Fast! (550 speed with Asymetrix Fast Detail screens)
- General purpose (for all anatomy – all species)

8. What are the benefits of SE+ film?

- Single emulsion technology
- High contrast
- High gloss
- Maximum detail

9. What is the speed of “_____” film when using “_____” screens?

	3M™ Asymetrix™ Detail	3M™ Asymetrix™ Fast Detail
Ultra Detail Plus	350	550
Ultimate 2000	350	550
SE+	100 or 200	200 or 300

10. Why 3M X-ray?

3M has researched and designed screens and film to complement the veterinarian. Diagnostics are quite different from human and veterinary radiography and 3M has the system specifically for the veterinary field. Technique guides are provided along with veterinary-trained customer service personnel are available for support.

3M has the right Products

- Rare Earth System designed by Veterinarians for Veterinarians
- Superior Image Quality
- Unique Veterinary accessories to address practical needs

3M has the right Support

- FREE technique guides for your X-ray machine
- 1-800-848-0829 3M Customer Service Helpline
- Regional Sales specialists to support you.

3M has the right Programs

- FREE Cassette Program
- 5% Cash Rebate Program
- Satisfaction Guarantee or your money back

11. What is needed to use the Vinyl cassettes? Do I have to order the footplate?

A 3M Contact Tunnel is used with the vinyl cassettes to ensure appropriate film/screen contact. The Contact Tunnel is placed inside a 3M Footplate when the horse is required to stand on top of the cassette.

12. What are the Mylar blockers for? How do I put them in my cassettes?

For cassettes that do not have a window, Mylar blockers (lead “stickers”) are used on the screens to prevent exposure to this portion of film. The patient identification is then exposed into this area of the film with the use of a photo-imprinter. The blockers are placed in the appropriate corners of each screen so that when closed, the blockers are superimposed on one another.

13. Does 3M make chemistry for automatic processors?

No, 3M produces manual chemistry only at this time.

14. What temperature is optimal for developing?

68° F is optimal for 5 minutes.

15. How long do I leave my radiograph in the fixer?

A radiograph is fixed for double the developing time (minimum of 10 minutes)

16. What is the shelf life of 3M Fixer and Developer?

Fixer expires 12 months from date of manufacturing and the developer expires 12 months from the date of manufacturing. Expiration dates are printed on each bottle.

17. PEEYEW!! Why does my fixer smell like rotten eggs?

A foul odor is most likely due to biologic growth in the chemistry tanks. When the water and chemistry is emptied, clean the tanks well with a 1% solution of household bleach and water. Rinse thoroughly then refill the tanks.

18. How do I dispose of fixer/developer?

Disposal is determined by local authorities. Check with your local city ordinances on the disposal. As long as the silver is removed (by silver recovery equipment), most chemistry can be disposed of down a drain.

19. What does “replenisher” refer too?

Replenisher refers to a concentrated form of mixed chemistry. It is used bi-weekly to keep the chemistry levels full and to keep the potency level up.

20. If my chemistry freezes, can it still be used?

Yes, but thaw at room temperature. A precipitate may form and cause artifacts on film.