

## Shelf Life of Products

Essentially, following minimal shelf lives are valid for the different product groups.

Particular shelf life data on Product Data Sheets or Product Information based on special product properties take precedence over these general declarations.

The minimal shelf lives are valid only if products are stored according to the data on product data sheets and Information or to the data given in the table below.

In general the products are useful in most of the cases even after end of shelf life. Particularly with flux cored wire, liquid flux, tacky flux and solder paste ageing may cause change of processing properties.

Therefore we recommend to test material out of shelf life before use.

Product	Minimal Shelf Life	
Solid Solder (Ingots, Bars, Sticks, Wires)	60 Months	From delivery date
Flux cored wire	36 Months	From delivery date
Liquid Flux, Thinner	12 Months	From date of production
Tacky Flux	12 Months	Storage temperature 6 – 16 °C
	6 Months	At room temperature
		In each case from date of production
Solder Paste in Jar	6 Months	From date of production
Solder Paste in Cartridge, Syringe	3 Months	From date of production

### Recommended Storage Conditions

Storage of **massive solders** essentially is not demanding. For optimum conservation of processing properties we recommend to store solders (ingots, bars, sticks, wires) in a dry and cool environment at 15 – 25 °C / 50 % RH. Storage should be done, particularly with **flux cored wires** in a dust-free environment in closed boxes.

**Fluxes** should be stored in dry, cool, but not frosty environment at 5 – 25 °C in un-opened original containers.

**Tacky Fluxes** maybe be stored for 12 months at 6 – 16 °C min., at room temperature for at least 6 months.

**Solder Pastes** are best stored at 6 – 16 °C. This material has to be put in a cool area immediately after delivery. For conservation of optimum performance of solder paste never store at room temperature if not necessary (four days max.). Cartridges and syringes must be stored in a vertical position, tip down. With horizontal storing the cartridges/syringes have to be turned around by 180 degrees once a week.

Before use take the paste timely out of the cool stock and allow paste to warm up to environmental temperature (3 – 4 h).