

**TechnoTip          Laminators**  
by Gerald L Fitton   21st October 2006

Barry Smith had a problem with his laminator not sealing a document properly.

Gerald L Fitton replied:

One possibility which I guess you have eliminated is slightly damp paper or card. I had this problem with something I was given to laminate. A variant of this theme is that the shield (the protective cover which goes through the machine) has a little moisture in it so that the plastic in the pouch doesn't reach the temperature which it should. It doesn't sound like this is the problem anyway.

My machine has a 'speed' control (underneath) and the instructions are to slow the machine down when using a thicker material for the pouch. Also I think you can get slightly different plastic compositions; some have a higher melting point. It seems a matter of 'trial and error' for there are no graduations on this speed control.

However, on the occasions when I have got it wrong, I put it through the laminator a second time (whilst everything is still too hot to touch) and that usually cures the problem. Only once have I had to go through three times.