



## Handling Instructions

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### ® **SIGRACET Gas Diffusion Layers** **GDL-10, standard grade** **GDL-20, standard grade** **GDL-30, standard grade**

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#### *Please Follow These Guidelines:*

1. **ALWAYS** wear protective gloves such as powder-free grades of latex or neoprene rubber when handling GDL. Change gloves frequently if handling over extended periods of time. Contaminants such as skin oils, grease, lubricants, and other organic impurities can compromise performance.
2. Keep GDL dry and away from liquid-storage areas.
3. Store, handle, and process GDL in a clean area free of dust, debris, and other airborne particulates.
4. When die- or knife-cutting GDL, extra handling precautions should be taken to avoid cracking, pinching, excessive bending, or particle & metal contamination.
5. **NEVER** make direct contact with the microlayer surface (coated side) of GDL-HM. If the microlayer must be touched, then only light, direct contact to a specific area should be applied. Rubbing, grazing, scratching, or tapping the microlayer will alter the discrete pore structure inherent to the coating.
6. Our recommended maximum contact-force for MEA lamination or stack assembly (based on actual contact area) is **200 lb<sub>f</sub>/in<sup>2</sup> (134 N/cm<sup>2</sup>)**. Forces beyond this limit may alter the original pore structure of the substrate. This could also cause puncture damage to the ion-conducting membrane.
7. On request we can provide compression-profile data for optimization of gasket material, gasket thickness, and electrical-contact resistance.