

## Polypropylene chemical resistance

---

### Description:

Polypropylene resins, like most polyolefin resins, are highly resistant to solvents and chemicals. They are appreciably affected by strong inorganic acids such as fuming nitric acid at room temperature and 98% sulfuric acid at 60°C.

Attached are chemical resistance data, withdraw from the literature, based on ASTM D 543 – Standard Practices for Evaluating the Resistance of Plastics to Chemical Reagents. Unstresses test specimens (dumbbells 76.2 mm length x 0.635 tickness) of PP were immersed during 30 days in the pure substance.

We emphasize, that thickness, stressed areas, and processing conditions are factors that could also affect the resin final resistance. Therefore, the only way to estimate the final product resistance is simulating the real situation, inspecting visually and through tests of mechanical resistance the material after exposure to chemical products. The tests can be speed up through the exposition to more severe conditions such as low and high temperatures.

The information provided here is based on Ibic Group Ltd & Pro-Measures current knowledge and experience. It should be noted that several factors can affect the properties of the finished product, such as processing conditions and the use of the final product, which are out of Ibic Group Ltd & Pro-Measures control. Therefore, the information provided here cannot be used as a guarantee by Ibic Group Ltd or Pro-Measures, and the transformer is not exempt from the responsibility of carrying out its own controls and tests on the articles it produces or uses.

## Rating System

- A** - negligible effect (should be suitable for all applications where these environmental conditions exist)
- B** - limited absorption or attack (should be suitable for most applications, but the user is advised to make his or her own tests to determine the suitability of polypropylene in the particular environmental)
- C** - extensive absorption and/or rapid permeation (should be suitable for applications where only intermittent service is involved, or where the swelling produced has no detrimental effect on the part. The user should make his or her own tests to determine the suitability of polypropylene in the particular environment).
- D** - extensive attack. The specimen dissolves or disintegrates. Polypropylene is not recommended.

**Satd.** – saturated aqueous solution.

**(a)** - May produce cracking in material under stress.

**BP** - Boiling Point

Substance	Conc.%	Temperature (°C)		
		20	60	100
Acetic acid (glacial)	97	A	B (80°C)	-
Acetic acid	50	A	A (80°C)	-
Acetic acid	40	A	-	-
Acetic acid	10	A	A	-
Acetone	100	A	A	-
Acetophenone	100	B	B	-
Acriflavine (2% solution in H <sub>2</sub> O)	2	A	A	-
Acrylic emulsions		A	A	-
Aluminum chloride		A	A	-
Aluminum fluoride		A	A	-
Aluminum sulfate		A	A	-
Alums (all types)		A	A	-
Ammonia (aqueous)	30	A	-	-
Ammonia gas (dry)		A	A	-
Ammonium carbonate	Satd.	A	A	-
Ammonium chloride	Satd.	A	A	-
Ammonium fluoride	20	A	A	-
Ammonium hydroxide	10	A	A	-
Ammonium metaphosphate	Satd.	A	A	-
Ammonium nitrate	Satd.	A	A	-
Ammonium persulfate	Satd.	A	A	-
Ammonium sulfate	Satd.	A	A	-
Ammonium sulfide	Satd.	A	A	-
Ammonium thiocyanate	Satd.	A	A	-
Amyl acetate	100	B	C	-
Amyl alcohol	100	A	B	-
Amyl chloride	100	C	C	-
Aniline	100	A	A	-
Anisole	100	B	B	-
Antimony chloride		A	A	-
Aviation fuel (115/145 octane)	100	B	C	-
Aviation turbine fuel	100	B	C	-
Barium carbonate	Satd.	A	A	-
Barium chloride	Satd.	A	A	-
Barium hydroxide		A	A	-
Barium sulfate	Satd.	A	A	-

Substance	Conc.%	Temperature (°C)		
		20	60	100
Barium sulfide	Satd.	A	A	-
Beer		A	A	-
Benzene	100	B	C	C
Benzoic acid		A	A	-
Benzyl alcohol		A	A (80°C)	-
Bismuth carbonate	Satd.	A	A	-
Borax		A	A	-
Boric acid		A	A	-
Brine	Satd.	A	A	-
Bromine liquid	100	D	-	-
Bromine water	(a)	C	-	-
Butyl acetate	100	C	C	-
Butyl alcohol	100	A	A	-
Calcium carbonate	Satd.	A	A	-
Calcium chlorate	Satd.	A	A	-
Calcium chloride	50	A	A	-
Calcium hydroxide		A	A	-
Calcium hypochlorite bleach	20 <sup>(a)</sup>	A	B	-
Calcium nitrate		A	A	-
Calcium phosphate	50	A	-	-
Calcium sulfate		A	A	-
Calcium sulfite		A	A	-
Carbon dioxide (dry)		A	A	-
Carbon dioxide (wet)		A	A	-
Carbon disulfide	100	B	C	-
Carbon monoxide		A	A	-
Carbon tetrachloride	100	C	C	C
Carbonic acid		A	A	-
Castor oil		A	-	-
Cetyl alcohol	100	A	-	-
Chlorine (gas)	100	D	D	-
Chlorobenzene	100	C	C	-
Chloroform	100	C	D	D
Chlorosulfonic acid	100	D	D	D
Chrome alum		A	A	-
Chromic acid	80 <sup>(a)</sup>	A	-	-

Substance	Conc.%	Temperature (°C)		
		20	60	100
Chromic acid	50 <sup>(a)</sup>	A	A	-
Chromic acid	10 <sup>(a)</sup>	A	A	-
Chromic/sulfuric acid		D	D	-
Cider		A	A	-
Citric acid	10	A	A	-
Copper chloride	Satd.	A	A	-
Copper cyanide	Satd.	A	A	-
Copper fluoride	Satd.	A	A	-
Copper nitrate	Satd.	A	A	-
Copper sulfate	Satd.	A	A	-
Cottonseed oil		A	A	-
Cuprous chloride	Satd.	A	A	-
Cyclohexanol	100	A	B	-
Cyclohexanone	100	B	C	-
Decalin	100	C	C	C
Detergents	2	A	A	A
Developers (photographic)		A	A	-
Dibutyl phthalate	100	A	B	D
Dichloroethylene	100	A	-	-
Diethanolamine	100	A	A	-
Diisooctyl phthalate	100	A	A	-
Emulsifiers		A	A	-
Ethanolamine	100	A	A	-
Ethyl acetate	100	B	B	-
Ethyl alcohol	96	A	A(80°C)	-
Ethyl chloride	100	C	C	-
Ethylene dichloride	100	B	-	-
Ethylene glycol		A	A	-
Ethylene oxide	100	B(10°C)	-	-
Ethyl ether	100	B	-	-
Fatty acids (C <sub>6</sub> )	100	A	A	-
Ferric chloride	Satd.	A	A	-
Ferric nitrate	Satd.	A	A	-
Ferric sulfate	Satd.	A	A	-
Ferrous chloride	Satd.	A	A	-
Ferrous sulfate	Satd.	A	A	-
Fluorosilicic acid		A	A	-
Formaldehyde	40	A	A	-
Formic acid	100	A	-	-
Formic acid	10	A	A	-
Fructose		A	A	-
Fruit juices		A	A	-
Furfural	100	C	C	-
Gas liquor		C	-	-
Gasoline	100	B	C	C
Gearbox oil	100	A	B	-
Gelatin		A	A	-
Glucose	20	A	A	-
Glycerin	100	A	A	A
Glycol		A	A	-
Hexane	100	A	B	-
Hydrobromic acid	50 <sup>(a)</sup>	A	A	-
Hydrochloric acid	30 <sup>(a)</sup>	A	B	D
Hydrochloric acid	20	A	A(80°C)	-
Hydrochloric acid	10	A	A(80°C)	B
Hydrochloric acid	2	A	A	A
50-50 HCl-HNO <sub>3</sub>	(a)	B	D(80°C)	-
Hydrofluoric acid	40	A	-	-
Hydrofluoric acid	60 <sup>(a)</sup>	A	A(40°C)	-
Hydrogen chloride gas (dry)	100	A	A	-
Hydrogen peroxide	30	A	-	D

Substance	Conc.%	Temperature (°C)		
		20	60	100
Hydrogen peroxide	10	A	B	-
Hydrogen peroxide	3	A	-	-
Hydrogen sulfide		A	A	-
Hydroquinone		A	A	-
Inks		A	A	-
Iodine tincture		A	-	-
Isooctane	100	C	C	-
Isopropyl alcohol	100	A	A	-
Ketones		A	-	-
Lactic acid	20	A	A	-
Lanolin	100	A	A	-
Lead acetate	Satd.	A	A	-
Linseed oil	100	A	A	-
Lubricating oil	100	A	B	-
Magenta dye (aqueous solution)	2	A	A (staining)	-
Magnesium carbonate	Satd.	A	A	-
Magnesium chloride	Satd.	A	A	-
Magnesium hydroxide	Satd.	A	A	-
Magnesium nitrate	Satd.	A	A	-
Magnesium sulfate	Satd.	A	A	-
Magnesium sulfite	Satd.	A	A	-
Meat juices		A	A	-
Mercuric chloride	40	A	A	-
Mercuric cyanide	Satd.	A	A	-
Mercurous nitrate	Satd.	A	A	-
Mercury	100	A	A	-
Methyl alcohol	100	A	A	-
Methylene chloride	100	A	-	-
Methyl ethyl ketone	100	A	B	-
Milk and its products		A	A	A
Mineral oil	100	A	B	-
Molasses		A	A	-
Motor oil	100	A	B	-
Naphthalene	100	A	A	A
Nickel chloride	Satd.	A	A	-
Nickel nitrate	Satd.	A	A	-
Nickel sulfate	Satd.	A	A	-
Nitric acid	Fuming	D	D	D
Nitric acid	70 <sup>(a)</sup>	C	D	-
Nitric acid	60	A	D(80°C)	-
Nitric acid	10	A	A	A
50-50 HNO <sub>3</sub> -HCl	(a)	B	D(80°C)	-
50-50 HNO <sub>3</sub> -H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	(a)	C	D(80°C)	-
Nitrobenzene	100	A	A	-
Oleic acid		A	B	-
Oleum		-	-	D
Olive oil	100	A	A	-
Oxalic acid (aqueous)	50	A	B	-
Paraffin	100	A	B	-
Paraffin wax	100	A	A	-
Petrol	100	B	C	-
Petroleum ether (BP: 100°-140°C)	100	C	C	-
Phenol	100	A	A	-
Phosphoric acid	95	A	A	-
Plating solutions, brass		A	A	-
Plating solutions, cadmium		A	A	-
Plating solutions, chromium		A	A	-
Plating solutions, copper		A	A	-
Plating solutions, gold		A	A	-
Plating solutions, indium		A	A	-
Plating solutions, lead		A	A	-

Substance	Conc.%	Temperature (°C)		
		20	60	100
Plating solutions, nickel		A	A	-
Plating solutions, rhodium		A	A	-
Plating solutions, silver		A	A	-
Plating solutions, tin		A	A	-
Plating solutions, zinc		A	A	-
Potassium bicarbonate	Satd.	A	A	-
Potassium borate	1	A	A	-
Potassium bromate	10	A	A	-
Potassium bromide	Satd.	A	A	-
Potassium carbonate	Satd.	A	A	-
Potassium chlorate	Satd.	A	A	-
Potassium chloride	Satd.	A	A	-
Potassium chromate	40	A	A	-
Potassium cyanide	Satd.	A	A	-
Potassium dichromate	40	A	A	-
Potassium ferri-/ferrocyanide		A	A	-
Potassium fluoride		A	A	-
Potassium hydroxide	50	A	A	-
Potassium hydroxide	10	A	A	A
Potassium nitrate	Satd.	A	A	-
Potassium perborate	Satd.	A	A	-
Potassium perchlorate	10	A	A	-
Potassium permanganate	20	A	A	-
Potassium sulfate		A	A	-
Potassium sulfide		A	A	-
Potassium sulfite		A	A	-
Propyl alcohol	100	A	A	-
Pyridine	100	A	-	-
Silicone oil	100	A	A	-
Soap solution (concentrated)		A	A	-
Sodium acetate		A	A	-
Sodium bicarbonate	Satd.	A	A	-
Sodium bisulfate	Satd.	A	A	-
Sodium bisulfite	Satd.	A	A	-
Sodium borate		A	A	-
Sodium bromide oil solution		A	A	-
Sodium carbonate	Satd.	A	A	-
Sodium chlorate	Satd.	A	A	-
Sodium chloride	Satd.	A	A	A
Sodium chlorite	2	A	A(80°C)	-
Sodium chlorite	5	A(80°C)	A	-
Sodium chlorite	10	A(80°C)	A	-
Sodium chlorite	20	A(80°C)	A	-
Sodium cyanide	Satd.	A	A	-
Sodium dichromate	Satd.	A	A	-
Sodium ferricyanide	Satd.	A	A	-
Sodium ferrocyanide	Satd.	A	A	-

Substance	Conc.%	Temperature (°C)		
		20	60	100
Sodium fluoride	Satd.	A	A	-
Sodium hydroxide	50	A	A	-
Sodium hydroxide	10	A	A	A
Sodium hypochlorite	20	A	B	B
Sodium nitrate		A	A	-
Sodium nitrite		A	A	-
Sodium silicate		A	A	-
Sodium sulfate	Satd.	A	A	-
Sodium sulfide	25	A	A	-
Sodium sulfite	Satd.	A	A	-
Stannic chloride	Satd.	A	A	-
Stannous chloride	Satd.	A	A	-
Starch		A	A	-
Sugars and syrups		A	A	-
Sulfamic acid		A	A(80°C)	-
Sulfates of calcium and magnesium	Satd.	A	A	-
Sulfates of potassium and sodium	Satd.	A	A	-
Sulfur		A	A	-
Sulfuric acid	98 <sup>(a)</sup>	C	-	D
Sulfuric acid	60	A	B(80°C)	-
Sulfuric acid	50	A	B	-
Sulfuric acid	10	A	A	A
50-50 H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> /HNO <sub>3</sub>	(a)	C	D(80°C)	-
Tallow		A	A	-
Tannic acid	10	A	A	-
Tartaric acid		A	A	-
Tetrahydrofuran	100	C	C	C
Tetralin	100	C	C	C
Toluene	100	C	C	-
Transformer oil	100	A	C	-
Trichloroacetic acid	10	A	A	-
Trichloroethylene	100	A	A(80°C)	-
Turpentine	100	C	C	C
Urea		A	A	-
Urine		A	A	-
Water (distilled, soft, hard and vapor)		A	A	A
Wet chlorine gas		-	D(70°C)	-
Whiskey		A	A	A
White Paraffin	100	A	B(80°C)	-
White spirit	100	B	C	-
Wines		A	A	-
Xylene	100	C	C	C
Yeast		A	A	-
Zinc chloride	Satd.	A	A	-
Zinc oxide		A	A	-
Zinc sulfate	Satd.	A	A	-