

TECHNICAL DATA SHEET Polyethylene

(PE)

Polyethylenes are semi-crystalline materials with excellent chemical resistance, good fatigue and wear resistance and a wide range of properties. Polyethylenes are easy to distinguish from other plastics because they float in water. Polyethylenes provide good resistance to organic solvents, degreasing agents and electrolytic attack. Polyethylene is used more than any other thermoplastic polymer. There are a wide variety of grades and formulations available that have an equally wide range of properties.

Benefits Applications Durability Easily fabricated Packaging Chemical resistance Skid Abrasion resistance **Plates** Good electrical properties Conveyer Impact resistance **Systems** Low coefficient of friction Tanks Moisture resistance Containers Truck liners

SHAPES AVAILABLE





POLYETHYLENE GRADES Low Density Polyethylene (LDPE)

This extruded material offers good corrosion resistance and low moisture permeability. It can be used in applications where corrosion resistance is important, but stiffness, high temperature, and structural strength are not. A highly flexible product, LDPE is used widely in orthopaedic products, or where mobility without stress fatigue is desired. LDPE is also frequently used in consumer packaging, bags, bottles, and liners.

BenefitsApplicationsLightweightChemical resistant tank and containers

Formable Food storage containers
Impact Resistant Laboratory equipment
Cond plactified proporties Correction resistant works

Good electrical properties Corrosion resistant work surfaces
Easily cleaned Vacuum formed end caps and tops
Easily Fabricated Moisture barrier

POLYETHYLENE GRADES High Density Polyethylene (HDPE)

Representing the largest portion of the polyethylene applications, HDPE offers excellent impact resistance, light weight, low moisture absorption, and high tensile strength. HDPE is also non-toxic and non-staining and meets food processing.

Benefits

Abrasion Resistant
High impact resistance
Low coefficient of friction
Abrasion resistance
Scratch and marki
Chemical resistant
Water and moisture resistant

Applications

Food cutting boards
Corrosion resistant covers
Pipe flanges
Radiation shielding
Self-supporting containers
Prosthetic devices



TYPICAL PROPERTIES of POLYETHYLENE				
ASTM or UL test	Property	LDPE	HDPE	UHMW
PHYSICAL				
D792	Density (lb/in³) (g/cm³)	0.033 0.92	0.035 0.96	0.034 0.93
D570	Water Absorption, 24 hrs (%)	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01
MECHANICAL				
D638	Tensile Strength (psi) at 72°F	1,400	4,600	5,800
D638	Tensile Strength (psi) at 150°F	400	400	400
D638	Tensile Modulus (psi)	57,000	200,000	80,000
D638	Tensile Elongation at Break (%)	100	400	300
D790	Flexural Strength at Yield (psi)	1,500	4,600	3,500
D790	Flexural Modulus (psi)	29,000	174,000	88,000
D695	Compressive Strength (psi)	1,400	4,600	3,000
D695	Compressive Modulus (psi)	54,000	100,000	80,000
D732	Shear Strength (psi)	-	-	3,000
D785	Hardness, Shore D	D45	D69	D62-D66
D256	IZOD Notched Impact (ft-lb/in)	No Break	1.3	No Break
	THERMAL			
D696	Coefficient of Linear Thermal Expansion (x 10 ⁻⁵ in./in./°F)	-	6	11
D648	Heat Deflection Temp (°F / °C) at 66 psi at 264 psi		170 / 76 176 / 80	
D3418	Approx. Melting Temperature (°F / °C)	244 / 118	260 / 125	275 / 136
-	Max Operating Temp (°F / °C)	160 / 71	180 / 82	180 / 82
C177	Thermal Conductivity (BTU-in/ft²-hr-°F) (x 10 ⁻⁴ cal/cm-sec-°C)			2.84 10.0
UL94	Flammability Rating	НВ	HB<	НВ
	ELECTRICAL	-	-	-
D149	Dielectric Strength (V/mil) short time, 1/8" thick	460-700	450-500	2300
D150	Dielectric Constant at 1 MHz	2.25- 2.30	2.30- 2.35	2.30- 2.35
D150	Dissipation Factor at 1 kHz	0.0002	0.0002	0.0005
D257	Surface Resistivity (ohm/square) at 50% RH	> 10 ¹⁵	> 10 ¹⁵	> 10 ¹⁵
D495	Arc Resistance (sec)	135-160	200-250	250-350

Benefits

Durability
Easily fabricated
Chemical resistance
Abrasion resistance
Electrical properties
Impact resistance
Low coefficient of friction
Moisture resistance

Applications

Tanks and containers
Food storage containers
Laboratory equipment
Disposable formed products
Surface structures
Vacuum formed end caps
and tops
Moisture barrier

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