

Chemical Compatibility Guide

Interpretation of Chemical Resistance

The Chemical Resistance Chart and Chemical Resistance Summary Chart that follow are general guidelines for Thermo Scientific Nalgene products only. Because so many factors can affect the chemical resistance of a given product, you should test under your own conditions. If any doubt exists about specific applications of Nalgene® products, please contact Technical Service, Thermo Fisher Scientific, Nalgene and Nunc products, 75 Panorama Creek Drive, Rochester, New York 14625-2385, or call (800) 625-4327, Fax (800) 625-4363. International customers, contact our International Department at +1 (585) 899-7198, Fax +1 (585) 899-7195. In Europe, contact Nalgene at +44 (0) 1432 263933, Fax +44 (0) 1432 376567.

Additional Chemical Resistance Information

This chemical resistance chart is to be used for all labware including containers up to 50L. For NALGENE centrifugeware please refer to those charts in this catalog.

For chemical resistance of PETG (polyethylene terephthalate copolyester), see below.

For Nalgene fluorinated containers, including fluorinated high-density polyethylene (FLPE) and fluorinated polypropylene (FLPP), see inside back cover.

Effects of Chemicals on Plastics

Chemicals can affect the strength, flexibility, surface appearance, color, dimensions or weight of plastics. The basic modes of interaction which cause these changes are: (1) chemical attack on the polymer chain, with resultant reduction in physical properties, including oxidation; reaction of functional groups in or on the chain, and depolymerization; (2) physical change, including absorption of solvents, resulting in softening and swelling of the plastic; permeation of solvent through the plastic, and dissolution in a solvent, and (3) stress-cracking from the interaction of a "stress-cracking agent" with molded-in or external stresses. Also see "Chemical Resistance Classification".

The reactive combination of compounds of two or more classes may cause a synergistic or undesirable chemical effect. Other factors affecting chemical resistance include temperature, pressure and internal or external stresses (e.g., centrifugation), length of exposure and concentration of the chemical. As temperature increases, resistance to attack decreases. Mixing and/or dilution of certain chemicals in Nalgene labware can be potentially dangerous. The reactive combination of different chemicals

First letter of each pair applies to conditions at 20°C; the second to those at 50°C. At 20°C->EG<-at 50°C.

Resin Codes:

ECTFE	Halar ECTFE* (ethylene-chlorotrifluoroethylene copolymer)
ETFE	Tefzel ETFE [†] (ethylene-tetrafluoroethylene)
FEP	Teflon FEP [†] (fluorinated ethylene propylene)
HDPE	high-density polyethylene
FLPE	fluorinated polyethylene
LDPE	low-density polyethylene
PC	polycarbonate
PEI	polyetherimide

PETG	polyethylene terephthalate copolymer
PFA	Teflon PFA [†] (polyfluoroalkoxy)
PMMA	polymethyl methacrylate (acrylic)
PMP	polymethylpentene
PP	polypropylene
PPCO ^{††}	polypropylene copolymer
PS	polystyrene
PSF	polysulfone
PVC	polyvinyl chloride

PVDF	polyvinylidene fluoride
RESMER	RESMER manufacturing technology
SAN	styrene acrylonitrile
TFE	Teflon TFE [†] (tetrafluoroethylene)
TMX	Thermanox
PMX	Permanox
XLPE	cross-linked high-density polyethylene

*Halar is a registered trademark of Solvay Solexis.

[†]Or equivalent. Teflon and Tefzel are registered trademarks of DuPont.

^{††}PPCO has replaced polyallomer (PA) in all products.

or compounds of two or more classes may cause an undesirable chemical effect or result in an increased temperature which can affect chemical resistance (as temperature increases, resistance to attack decreases). Other factors affecting chemical resistance include pressure and internal or external stresses (e.g., centrifugation), length of exposure and concentration of the chemical.

Environmental Stress-Cracking

Environmental stress-cracking is the failure of a plastic material in the presence of certain types of chemicals. This failure is not a result of chemical attack. Simultaneous presence of three factors causes stress-cracking: tensile strength, a stress-cracking agent and inherent susceptibility of the plastic to stress-cracking.

Common stress-cracking agents are detergents, surface active chemicals, lubricants, oils, ultra-pure water and plating additives such as brighteners and wetting agents. Relatively small concentrations of stress-cracking agent may be sufficient to cause cracking.

Mixing and/or dilution of certain chemicals may result in reactions that produce heat and can cause product failure. Pre-test your specific usage and always follow correct lab safety procedures.

ATTENTION: Please be aware that, although several polymers may have excellent resistance to various flammable organic chemicals and solvents, OSHA H CFR 29 1910.106 for flammable and combustible materials, or other local regulations, may restrict the volumes of solvents which may legally be stored in an enclosed area.

Caution

Do not store strong oxidizing agents in plastic labware except that made of FEP or PFA. Prolonged exposure causes embrittlement and failure. While prolonged storage may not be intended at time of filling, a forgotten container will fail in time and result in leakage of contents. Do not place any plastic labware in a flame.

**Quickly and easily search our extensive chemical resistance database at:
www.nalgenelabware.com**

CHEMICAL	LDPE		HDPE		PP		PPCO		PMP		PETG		FEP		TFE		PFA		ECTFE		ETFE		PC		Rigid PVC		Flex. PVC		PSF		PS		FLPE		RESMER		PMMA		SAN		PEI		XLPE		PVDF	
	20°	50°	20°	50°	20°	50°	20°	50°	20°	50°	20°	50°	20°	50°	20°	50°	20°	50°	20°	50°	20°	50°	20°	50°	20°	50°	20°	50°	20°	50°	20°	50°	20°	50°	20°	50°	20°	50°	20°	50°	20°	50°				
1,4-Dioxane, pure	G	F	G	G	N	N	G	F	F	N	-	-	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	F	E	F	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	E	E	F	N	N	N	N	-	-	F	N	N	N		
2,2,4-Trimethylpentane, pure	F	N	F	N	F	N	F	N	F	N	-	-	E	E	E	E	E	G	E	G	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	G	F	G	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	E	E	
2,4,6-Trinitrophenol, pure	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	E	E	-	-	E	E	E	E	E	E	G	F	G	F	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	G	F	N	N	G	F	-	-	E	E	-	-	G	N	G	N	
2-Methoxyethanol, pure	E	G	E	E	G	F	E	E	E	E	F	N	E	E	E	E	E	E	G	E	E	N	N	F	N	F	N	N	N	N	E	E	G	F	-	-	N	N	-	-	-	-	E	E		
2-Propanol, pure	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	-	-	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	N	N	E	F	E	E	E	E	E	E		
Acetaldehyde, pure	G	N	G	F	G	N	G	N	G	N	-	-	E	E	E	E	E	G	F	E	E	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	G	F	G	G	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N		
Acetamide, saturated	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	-	-	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	N	N	N	N	N	N	E	E	G	G	E	E	-	-	E	E	E	-	E	E	G	N		
Acetic Acid, 5%	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	F	N	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	F	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E			

E - No damage after 30 days of constant exposure.

G - Little or no damage after 30 days of constant exposure.

F - Some effect after 7 days of constant exposure.

N - Immediate damage may occur. Not recommended for continuous use.

CHEMICAL	LDPE	HDPE	PP	PCO	PMP	PETG	FEP	TFE	PFA	ECTFE	ETFE	PC	Rigid PVC	Flex. PVC	PSF	PS	FLPE	RESMER	PMMA	SAN	PEI	XLPE	PVDF	
	20° 50°	20° 50°	20° 50°	20° 50°	20° 50°	20° 50°	20° 50°	20° 50°	20° 50°	20° 50°	20° 50°	20° 50°	20° 50°	20° 50°	20° 50°	20° 50°	20° 50°	20° 50°	20° 50°	20° 50°	20° 50°	20° 50°	20° 50°	
Sodium Hydroxide, 10%	E	E	E	E	E	E	G -	E	E	E	E	N	N	E	E	G	N	E	E	E	E	E	E	
Sodium Hydroxide, 50%	G	G	E	E	E	E	N	N	E	E	E	E	N	N	E	G	F	N	E	G	E	N	E	G
Sodium Hydroxide, concentrated	G	G	E	E	E	E	N	N	E	E	E	E	N	N	E	G	F	N	E	G	E	N	E	G
Sodium Hypochlorite, 15%	E	F	E	G	F	N	G	N	E	E	G	-	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
Stearic Acid, pure	E	E	G	G	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
Sulfur Dioxide, dry gas	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
Sulfur Dioxide, liquid (46 psig)	N	N	F	N	E	E	N	N	N	N	-	-	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
Sulfur Dioxide, wet gas	E	E	E	E	E	E	-	-	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
Sulfur Dioxide, pure	N	N	F	N	E	E	N	N	N	N	-	-	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
Sulfur Salts, pure	F	N	G	F	F	N	F	N	-	-	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
Sulfuric Acid, 6%	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
Sulfuric Acid, 20%	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
Sulfuric Acid, 30%	E	E	E	E	E	E	G	-	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
Sulfuric Acid, 60%	E	G	E	G	G	F	G	F	E	G	-	-	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
Sulfuric Acid, 96%	G	G	F	N	F	N	F	N	G	F	N	N	N	N	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
Sulfuric Acid, 98%	G	G	F	N	F	N	F	N	G	F	N	N	N	N	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
Sulfuric Acid, concentrated	G	G	F	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
Tartaric Acid, pure	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	-	-	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
TCA, pure	F	N	F	N	G	F	F	N	E	E	-	-	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
tert-Butanol, pure	E	G	E	E	E	G	E	G	E	G	-	-	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
tert-Butyl Alcohol, pure	E	G	E	E	E	G	E	G	E	G	-	-	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
Tetrahydrofuran, pure	F	N	F	N	G	F	G	F	F	F	-	-	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
THF, pure	F	N	F	N	G	F	G	F	F	F	-	-	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
Thionyl Chloride, pure	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	-	-	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
Tincture of Iodine	E	G	G	F	E	E	G	N	N	N	-	-	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
Toluene, pure	F	N	N	N	N	N	F	F	N	N	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
Tributyl Citrate, pure	G	F	E	G	G	F	G	F	G	F	-	-	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
Trichloroacetic Acid, pure	F	N	F	N	G	F	F	N	E	E	-	-	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
Trichloroethane, pure	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	-	-	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
Trichloroethylene, pure	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	-	-	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
Triethylene Glycol, pure	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	-	-	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
Tripropylene Glycol, pure	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	-	-	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
Tris Buffer Solution, pH 11	E	G	E	G	E	G	E	G	F	N	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
Tris Buffer Solution, pH 7.0	E	G	E	G	E	G	E	G	G	G	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
Trisodium Phosphate, pure	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	-	-	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
Turpentine	F	N	F	N	F	N	N	N	F	N	G	-	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
Undecyl Alcohol, pure	E	F	E	G	E	G	E	G	E	G	-	-	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
Urea, pure	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	-	-	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
Vinylidene Chloride, pure	N	N	F	N	N	N	N	N	-	-	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
Xylene, pure	N	N	F	N	N	N	F	N	-	-	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
Zinc Chloride, 10%	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	-	-	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
Zinc Stearate, pure	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	-	-	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
Zinc Sulfate, 10%	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	-	-	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E

E - No damage after 30 days of constant exposure.

G - Little or no damage after 30 days of constant exposure.

F - Some effect after 7 days of constant exposure.

N - Immediate damage may occur. Not recommended for continuous use.