



Methylene Chloride

Dichloromethane

Catalog Nr. Q550

Definition Dichloromethane (DCM or methylene chloride) is the organic compound with the formula CH₂Cl₂. This colorless, volatile liquid with a moderately sweet aroma is widely used as a solvent. Although it is not miscible with water, it is miscible with many organic solvents.

CAS Number 75-09-2

Application Dichloromethane's volatility and ability to dissolve a wide range of organic compounds makes it a useful solvent for many chemical processes. Concerns about its health effects have led to a search for alternatives in many of these applications.

It is widely used as a paint stripper and a degreaser. In the food industry, it is used to decaffeinate coffee and tea as well as to prepare extracts of hops and other flavorings. Its volatility has led to its use as an aerosol spray propellant and as a blowing agent for polyurethane foams.

Dichloromethane chemically welds certain plastics, for example, it is used to seal the casing of electric meters. Often sold as a main component of plastic welding adhesives it is also used extensively in the model-making industry for joining plastic components together - it is commonly referred to as "Di-clo."

Also used in the garment printing industry for removal of heat-sealed garment transfers. Usually sold in cans with methanol as the propellant gas. Its volatility is exploited in novelty items - drinking birds, bubble lights, and jukebox displays.

Dichloromethane is used within the material testing field of civil engineering, specifically it is used during the testing of bituminous materials as a solvent to separate the binder from the aggregate of an asphalt or macadam to allow the testing of the materials.

Technical Data

PROPERTIES

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| Appearance: | Clear, colorless liquid. |
| Odor: | Chloroform-like odor. |
| Solubility: | 1.32 gm/100 gm water @ 20C. |
| Specific Gravity: | 1.318 @ 25C |
| % Volatiles by volume @ 21C (70F): | 100 |
| Boiling Point: | 39.8C (104F) |
| Melting Point: | -97C (-143F) |
| Vapor Density (Air=1): | 2.9 |
| Vapor Pressure (mm Hg): | 350 @ 20C (68F) |
| Evaporation Rate (BuAc=1): | 27.5 |

Packaging & Handling

Drums x 270 kgs

UN Number

Class

Packaging Group