

Pigments for plastics

Product selection guide

 **BASF**

We create chemistry



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A colorful palette of solutions

BASF offers a comprehensive palette of coloring solutions that gives you the intense colors you demand for your plastics. Our pigments provide you with reliable quality, consistent processing behavior, reduced scrap rates, and enhanced productivity, and they enable you to find the optimal combination of coloring value and processing efficiency. Furthermore, our portfolio has been systematically reviewed and evaluated with our Sustainable Solution Steering method, which allows us to assess the sustainability performance of each of our products in its specific application. We create chemistry that makes performance love sustainable solutions.

For coloring plastic, we identified downstream cost savings, energy efficiency, resource efficiency, and durability, as well as health and safety, as the key drivers for more sustainable solutions.

Pigments that contribute substantially to these drivers along the value chain have been classified at BASF as Sustainability Accelerators.

The detailed analysis of our portfolio and externally assured method of clustering our products allow us to offer you and your customers' industries the solutions you need. Let's take a joint look at your specific requirements and find out how we can further improve both your, as well as our, BASF's sustainability profile!

Learn more about BASF's commitment to driving sustainable solutions at: www.basf.com/sustainability



Explanation of data

Color shades

All organic pigment shades shown here are based on a full shade concentration of 0.2% pigment; violets are an exception, where 0.1% pigment was used. In the white reductions, the illustrations are based on the respective pigment concentration to achieve 1/3 ISD based on 5% TiO₂.

Inorganic pigment shades are based on a full shade concentration of 2% pigment and a ratio of 1:4 for white reductions.

Polymer suitability

Possible fields of application are shown in the table, opposite each pigment. Please note that these are intended only as a general guide.

Application performance

A selection of performance data of the most important properties in polyolefin (HDPE) and PVC (Ba/Zn-stabilized, flexible PVC) is presented here. All data given is for the corresponding base pigment, unless otherwise stated. Pigment concentrations used are those based on powder pigments.

Organic pigments:
Full shade (FS): 0.1%
White reduction (WR): 0.1% + 1% TiO₂ (ratio 1:10)

Inorganic pigments:
Full shade (FS): 1%
White reduction (WR): 0.5% + 2% TiO₂ (ratio 1:4)

Migration (HDPE and PVC-p)

Migration resistance was determined in accordance with DIN 53775 by direct contact between the colored test sheet and a white, flexible PVC contact sheet.

Staining of the contact sheet was assessed using the ISO 105-A03 grayscale (GS) for assessing staining, with GS 5 denoting no migration and steps 4 to 5 being subdivided.

Heat resistance (HDPE)

Heat resistance was determined by injection molding in accordance with ISO 12877-2.

The results show the highest temperature at which the color difference, versus a standard, is no greater than GS 4 on the ISO 105-A02 grayscale for assessing color change.

For most of the Sicotan® and Sicopal® products, and some high-performance organic pigments, a GS rating of 5 is achieved at the highest testing temperature of 300 °C. Therefore, heat resistance above 300 °C can be achieved under certain circumstances.

Light fastness (HDPE and PVC-p)

Light fastness was determined using Xenon lamp exposure tests in accordance with the equivalent test methods ISO 4892-2 or ISO 105-B02.

The samples were assessed against the 1–8 Blue Wool Scale as described in ISO 105-B02, Blue Wool 8 denoting the highest light fastness.

Explanation of data

Hot light fastness* (PVC-p)

Exposure was carried out to 600 kJ/m² in accordance with ASTM SAE J2412 (formally ASTM SAE J1885).

Color changes were assessed using the ISO 105-A02 grayscale (GS) for assessing color change, with GS 5 denoting no change and GS 1 denoting the lowest hot light fastness.

Weather resistance* (HDPE and PVC-p)

Weather resistance was determined using Xenon light exposure tests in accordance with the equivalent test methods ASTM G155, ISO 4892-2, or the former Ciba internal test method WOM 119/50.

The HDPE samples were exposed for up to 3,000 hours and the PVC-p samples for up to 5,000 hours.

Color changes were assessed using the ISO 105-A02 grayscale (GS) for assessing color change, with GS 5 denoting no change and GS 1 denoting the lowest weather resistance.

Warping (HDPE)

Influence on the warping tendency of injection-molded HDPE articles was determined in accordance with ISO 294-4/ASTM D955.

Warping tendency was assessed as follows:

- None (N): No significant influence under laboratory test conditions and widely confirmed in practice.
- Low (L): Slight influence determined in laboratory testing but successful in practice.
- High (H): Significant influence in the laboratory and in practice. Use for large or complex HDPE injection moldings is not recommended.

1/3 ISD (HDPE and PVC-p)

Color strength is indicated by the number of parts of colored pigment that, in combination with a defined percentage of TiO₂ in a particular polymer or compound, gives 1/3 International Standard Depth (ISD) as described in DIN 53.235.

Density

Density was determined in a pycnometer, as described in ISO/R 787-10, and is expressed as g/cm³.

Bulk density

Bulk density was determined by the weight of a product sample that can be contained in a vessel of specified volume and is expressed as kg/l. Assessment was in accordance with ISO/R 787-11.

Product form

Certain inorganic pigments are also available in a fine granule (FG) form. This product form is low-dusting and free-flowing.

* Hot light fastness and weather resistance ratings below GS 3 are not included in this pattern card. Products with a low performance are not recommended for these applications.

Organic pigments

Organic pigments usually provide the broadest possible coverage of the color space – from vivid opaque or transparent mass tones to reduced tint shades. When used in demanding engineering plastics or diluted for pastel shades, organic pigments may exhibit limitations in performance with regards to processing efficiency or fastness to light or weathering.

Key portfolio

Product	Color shade	Chemical type	Key properties
Cinquasia®	Red – Pink / Magenta – Violet	Quinacridones	High-performance pigments for the most important plastic types and end-uses, usually combining outstanding coloristic properties, excellent lightfastness, heat and chemical resistance; in addition, select products offer excellent weather resistance or can be used in more demanding engineering plastics
Cromophthal®	Yellow to Red – Brown	Azo condensation	
	Yellow – Orange	Benzimidazolone	
	Yellow	Pteridine	
	Violet	Dioxazine	
Irgazin®	Yellow – Orange	Isoindolinone	
	Orange – Red – Rubine	DPP	
Paliogen®	Red – Violet	Perylene	
	Blue	Indanthrone	
Heliofen®	Blue – Green	Cu-phthalocyanine	
	Yellow	Isoindoline	With their outstanding coloring efficiency, these medium- to high-performance pigments are designed to efficiently cover most indoor uses for industrial or consumer applications in either plastics or fibers
Paliotol®	Yellow	Quinophtalone	
	Yellow – Orange – Red	Azo salt / Disazo	
Irgalite®	Yellow – Orange – Red – Rubine	2B, 4B BONA lake	Classical organic pigments with fair processing and end-use performance for non-critical applications

Organic pigments

□ Limited suitability ■ Recommended

Product	Sustainability Accelerator*	Full shade (FS)	White reduction (WR)	Applications														Application performance										Physical properties				Available preparations											
				General										Fibers				HDPE					PVC-p					1/3 ISD in HDPE (1% TiO ₂)		1/3 ISD in PVC (1% TiO ₂)		Density		Bulk density		Eupden® PE		Microlen® MC		Micranyl® Q		Microolith® KP	
				PVC	PO	PS	ABS	PA6	PET	PC	PMMA	Rubber	PUR	PP	PET	PA	Migration FS 0.1%	Heat FS 0.1%	Heat WR 1:10	Light FS 0.1%	Light WR 1:10	Weather (3,000 h) FS 0.1%	Weather (3,000 h) WR 1:10	Warping	Migration FS 0.1%	Light FS 0.1%	Light WR 1:10	Hot light (600 kcal) FS 0.1%	Hot light (600 kcal) WR 1:10	Weather (5,000 h) FS 0.1%	Weather (5,000 h) WR 1:10	1/3 ISD in HDPE (1% TiO ₂)	1/3 ISD in PVC (1% TiO ₂)	Density	Bulk density	Eupden® PE	Microlen® MC	Micranyl® Q	Microolith® KP				
Paliotol® Yellow K 0961 old: Paliotol® Yellow K 0961 HD C.I. Pigment Yellow 138** Quinophthalone	-	■	■	■	■	□	■	□	■	■	■	□	-	4-5	280	270	8.0	7.0	-	-	L	4.5	7-8	7.0	5.0	4-5	-	-	0.21	0.18	1.80	0.40	■	-	-	-							
Cromophtal® Yellow K 0990 FP old: Cromophtal® Yellow 8GNP C.I. Pigment Yellow 128 Disazo condensation	■	■	■	□	□	-	-	-	-	■	■	■	-	-	5.0	260	260	8.0	7-8	4-5	3.0	N	5.0	8.0	7-8	5.0	4-5	4-5	4.0	0.21	0.20	1.47	0.13	-	-	-	-						
Paliotol® Yellow K 1070 old: Irgalite® Yellow WGP C.I. Pigment Yellow 168 Monoazo salt	-	■	■	□	□	-	-	-	-	■	□	-	-	-	5.0	260	240	7.0	7.0	3.0	-	N	5.0	7-8	7.0	-	-	-	-	0.37	0.37	1.66	0.25	-	■	■	-						
Cromophtal® Yellow K 1210 FP old: Cromophtal® Yellow 3GNP C.I. Pigment Yellow 93 Disazo condensation	-	■	■	■	□	-	-	-	□	■	■	■	-	-	5.0	280	280	8.0	6-7	4.0	-	N	5.0	8.0	7-8	5.0	5.0	4.0	3-4	0.15	0.15	1.45	0.14	-	■	■	■						
Paliotol® Yellow K 1300 FP C.I. Pigment Yellow 155 Disazo condensation	■	■	■	-	-	-	-	-	■	■	■	-	-	4.2	260	260	7.0	6-7	3-4	-	L	4.8	8.0	7-8	5.0	4.0	4-5	3	0.15	0.15	1.40	0.20	-	■	-	-							
Cromophtal® Yellow K 1310 old: Cromophtal® Yellow 4GV C.I. Pigment Yellow 215 Pteridine	■	□	■	■	■	■	-	-	-	□	□	□	-	-	5.0	300	300	7.0	7.0	4-5	4.0	L	5.0	7-8	7.0	4.0	4.0	-	-	0.18	0.15	1.62	0.30	■	-	-	-						
Irgalite® Yellow K 1320 old: Irgalite® Yellow BRMO C.I. Pigment Yellow 14*** Diarylide	-	■	□	-	-	-	-	-	■	■	-	-	-	2-3	200	200	6-7	6.0	-	-	-	-	4.7	6.0	6.0	-	-	-	-	0.13	0.11	1.63	0.21	-	-	-	-						
Cromophtal® Yellow K 1410 old: Cromophtal® Yellow 2GO C.I. Pigment Yellow 180 Benzimidazolone	■	■	■	□	-	□	■	■	□	□	■	-	-	5.0	300	300	7-8	7.0	4-5	-	L	5.0	8.0	7-8	5.0	4.0	4.0	-	0.15	0.11	1.40	0.21	-	■	-	-							

The color shade is indicative. The actual shade in use depends on the formulation and may vary.
 * Product that has been evaluated with BASF's Sustainable Solution Steering method and contributes substantially to sustainability in the value chain.
 ** Products with this C.I. number may vary in color and resistance properties in different polymer systems.
 *** At temperatures above 200 °C, diarylide pigments may decompose. Users are advised to follow the recommendations of ETAD information No. 2.

Organic pigments

□ Limited suitability ■ Recommended

Product	Sustainability Accelerator*	Full shade (FS)	White reduction (WR)	Applications													Application performance										Physical properties				Available preparations								
				General									Fibers				HDPE					PVC-p																	
				PVC	PO	PS	ABS	PA6	PET	PC	PMMA	Rubber	PUR	PP	PET	PA	Migration FS 0.1%	Heat FS 0.1%	Heat WR 1:10	Light FS 0.1%	Light WR 1:10	Weather (3,000 h) FS 0.1%	Weather (3,000 h) WR 1:10	Warping	Migration FS 0.1%	Light FS 0.1%	Light WR 1:10	Hot light (600 kcal) FS 0.1%	Hot light (600 kcal) WR 1:10	Weather (5,000 h) FS 0.1%	Weather (5,000 h) WR 1:10	1/3 ISD in HDPE (1% TiO ₂)	1/3 ISD in PVC (1% TiO ₂)	Density	Bulk density	Eupolen® PE	Microlen® MC	Micranyl® Q	Microlith® KP
Irgazin® Red K 3840 LW old: Cromophthal® Red 2028 C.I. Pigment Red 254 Diketopyrrolopyrrole (DPP)	■			□	■	□	□	-	-	-	-	□	□	■	-	-	5	300	300	8	8	4	-	N	5	8	7-8	4-5	4-5	3-4	0.16	0.15	1.63	0.18	-	■	-	-	
Irgazin® Red K 3845 old: Irgazin® DPP Red B0 C.I. Pigment Red 254 Diketopyrrolopyrrole (DPP)	-			■	■	■	□	□	-	-	□	■	□	-	-	-	5	300	300	8	8	5	3	H	5	8	8	5	5	5	3-4	0.23	0.23	1.62	0.33	-	-	-	■
Irgazin® Red K 3845 LW old: Cromophthal® DPP Red BOC C.I. Pigment Red 254 Diketopyrrolopyrrole (DPP)	■			-	■	■	□	□	-	-	□	■	-	-	-	-	5	300	300	8	8	5	3	L	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.23	-	1.62	0.33	-	■	-	-	
Cromophthal® Red K 3890 FP old: Cromophthal® Red BRNP C.I. Pigment Red 144 Disazo condensation	-			■	■	■	■	-	□	□	□	■	□	■	-	-	5	300	300	7-8	7	3	-	H	4.9	8	7-8	5	5	3-4	-	0.14	0.12	1.52	0.14	-	■	■	■
Cromophthal® Red K 3900 FP old: Cromophthal® Red BNFP PP C.I. Pigment Red 214 Disazo condensation	-			■	■	■	■	□	■	□	■	■	□	■	■	-	5	300	300	7-8	7	4-5	-	H	5	8	7-8	5	5	3	-	0.14	0.13	1.55	0.10	-	-	-	-
Paliogen® Red K 3911 old: Paliogen® Red K 3911 HD C.I. Pigment Red 178 Perylene	-			■	■	■	□	□	■	□	■	■	■	■	□	□	5	300	300	8	7	3-4	-	H	5	8	7	5	4	-	-	0.26	0.18	1.60	0.22	■	-	-	-
Cromophthal® Red K 4035 old: Cromophthal® Red 2B C.I. Pigment Red 221 Disazo condensation	-			■	□	-	-	-	-	-	-	■	■	-	-	-	5	260	260	7-8	6-7	3	-	-	5	7-8	6-7	5	3	-	-	0.12	0.11	1.33	0.30	-	-	■	-
Irgalite® Red K 4060 FP old: Irgalite® Red 2BSP C.I. Pigment Red 48:3** BONA (Sr)	-			■	■	□	□	-	-	-	-	■	■	■	-	-	5	240	260	6	4	-	-	L	5	6	5-6	-	-	-	-	0.17	0.14	1.82	0.22	-	■	-	-

The color shade is indicative. The actual shade in use depends on the formulation and may vary.
* Product that has been evaluated with BASF's Sustainable Solution Steering method and contributes substantially to sustainability in the value chain.
** Products with this C.I. number may vary in color and resistance properties in different polymer systems.

Organic pigments

□ Limited suitability ■ Recommended

Product	Sustainability Accelerator*	Full shade (FS)	White reduction (WR)	Applications													Application performance										Physical properties				Available preparations									
				General										Fibers			HDPE					PVC-p					1/3 ISD in HDPE (1% TiO ₂)		1/3 ISD in PVC (1% TiO ₂)		Density	Bulk density	Eupolen® PE	Microlen® MC	Micranyl® Q	Microlith® KP				
				PVC	PO	PS	ABS	PA6	PET	PC	PMMA	Rubber	PUR	PP	PET	PA	Migration FS 0.1%	Heat FS 0.1%	Heat WR 1:10	Light FS 0.1%	Light WR 1:10	Weather (3,000 h) FS 0.1%	Weather (3,000 h) WR 1:10	Warping	Migration FS 0.1%	Light FS 0.1%	Light WR 1:10	Hot light (600 kcJ) FS 0.1%	Hot light (600 kcJ) WR 1:10	Weather (5,000 h) FS 0.1%	Weather (5,000 h) WR 1:10	Density	Bulk density	Eupolen® PE	Microlen® MC	Micranyl® Q	Microlith® KP			
Heliogen® Blue K 6860 C.I. Pigment Blue 15 Cu-phthalocyanine	-	■	■	■	□	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	■	□	-	-	-	5	220	220	8	8	5	5	H	5	8	8	5	3-4	3-4	3-4	0.09	0.08	1.62	0.21	-	-	-	-
Heliogen® Blue K 6902 C.I. Pigment Blue 15:1 Cu-phthalocyanine	-	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	-	-	-	5	300	300	8	8	5	5	H	5	8	8	5	4-5	4-5	4	0.11	0.09	1.60	0.32	■	-	-	-		
Heliogen® Blue K 6907 C.I. Pigment Blue 15:1 Cu-phthalocyanine	-	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	5	300	300	8	8	5	5	H	5	8	8	4-5	4-5	5	4	0.10	0.08	1.60	0.32	■	■	-	-		
Heliogen® Blue K 6911 / K 6912 FP old: Heliogen® Blue K 6911 D / FP C.I. Pigment Blue 15:1 Cu-phthalocyanine	-	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	5	300	300	8	8	5	5	H	5	8	8	4-5	4-5	5	4	0.09	0.07	1.60	0.33	-	■	■	-		
Heliogen® Blue K 6916 C.I. Pigment Blue 15:1 Cu-phthalocyanine	-	□	■	□	□	■	■	□	□	■	■	■	■	■	■	5	260	280	7-8	7-8	4-5	4-5	H	4.5	8	6-7	5	3-4	5	4	0.09	0.08	1.60	0.20	-	■	-	-		
Heliogen® Blue K 7090 FP C.I. Pigment Blue 15:3 Cu-phthalocyanine	-	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	5	280	280	8	8	5	5	H	5	8	8	4-5	5	4-5	4-5	0.12	0.09	1.60	0.20	■	-	■	■		
Heliogen® Blue K 7096 old: Irgalite® Blue GBP C.I. Pigment Blue 15:3 Cu-phthalocyanine	-	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	5	300	300	8	8	5	5	H	5	7-8	7-8	4-5	4-5	4-5	3-4	0.11	0.09	1.60	0.32	-	-	-	-		
Heliogen® Blue K 7104 LW C.I. Pigment Blue 15:4 Cu-phthalocyanine	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	-	-	-	5	300	300	8	8	5	5	L	5	8	8	4-5	4	4	3-4	0.11	0.09	1.60	0.20	■	-	-	-		

The color shade is indicative. The actual shade in use depends on the formulation and may vary.
* Product that has been evaluated with BASF's Sustainable Solution Steering method and contributes substantially to sustainability in the value chain.



Inorganic pigments





The perfect complement to organic pigments, inorganic pigments do offer very robust processing performance even for highly demanding engineering plastics or for warping sensitive applications. Also, as base components or as shading partners, they ensure ultimate durability for most end-uses.

Key portfolio

Product	Color shade	Chemical type	Key properties
Sicotan®	Yellow – Brown	CICP (Ni, Cr Titanate)	These inorganic, mixed-phase pigments have outstanding fastness to heat, light, weather, chemicals, and solvents – even in very low concentrations. Their exceptionally high heat and chemical resistance makes them suitable for almost all polymer types
Sicopal®	Yellow	Bismuth Vanadate	These inorganic pigments, with their spinel structure, are based on various metal oxides. All have outstanding fastness to light and weather, and most of them achieve the highest heat resistance
	Orange	Sn-titanate	
	Blue – Green	Cobalt pigments	
	Brown – Black	Iron mixed oxides	
Sicotrans®	Red	Iron oxides	These extremely fine and transparent iron oxide red pigments have excellent fastness to heat, light, and weather

Inorganic pigments

□ Limited suitability ■ Recommended

Product	Sustainability Accelerator*	Fujii shade (FS)	White reduction (WR)	Applications													Application performance								Physical properties											
				General										Fibers			HDPE				PVC-p				Density		Bulk density		Available forms							
				PVC	PO	PS	ABS	PA6	PET	PC	PMMA	Rubber	PUR	PP	PET	PA	Migration FS 1%	Heat FS 1%	Heat WR 1:4	Light FS 1%	Light WR 1:4	Weather (3,000 h) FS 1%	Weather (3,000 h) WR 1:4	Warping	Migration FS 1%	Light FS 1%	Light WR 1:4	Hot light (600 kJ) FS 1%	Hot light (600 kJ) WR 1:4	Weather (5,000 h) FS 1%	Weather (5,000 h) WR 1:4	1/3 ISD in PVC (1% TiO ₂)	Density	Bulk density	Powder	Fine granule
Sicotrans® Red K 2819 C.I. Pigment Red 101 Iron oxide	-			□	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	□	□	□	5	300	300	8	8	5	5	N	5	8	8	-	-	-	-	0.58	4.40	0.30	■	-
Sicotrans® Red K 2915 C.I. Pigment Red 101 Iron oxide	-			□	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	□	□	□	5	300	300	8	8	5	5	N	5	8	8	-	-	-	-	0.27	5.10	0.50	■	-

The color shade is indicative. The actual shade in use depends on the formulation and may vary.
* Product that has been evaluated with BASF's Sustainable Solution Steering method and contributes substantially to sustainability in the value chain.

Contacts

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G-EDP

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