

Typical Engineering Properties of High Density Polyethylene

General Properties	English Units	SI Units
CAS Number	25213-02-9	25213-02-9
Molecular Weight	0.062 lbs	28.0 g
Density	0.0336-0.0349 lbs/in ³	0.930-0.965 g/cm ³
Melt Density	0.027 lbs/in ³	0.764 g/cm ³
Bulk Density		
Pellets	35 – 38 lbs./ft ³	561 - 609 kg/m ³
Flake	31 – 34 lbs./ft ³	497 – 545 kg/m ³
Permeability Coefficients:		
Water (@ 25°C)	1.7x10 ⁻¹² in ² /sec ² -atm	1.3x10 ⁻¹⁰ cm ² /(sec-cm Hg)
Oxygen (@ 30°C)	1.4x10 ⁻¹² in ² /sec ² -atm	1.06x10 ⁻¹⁰ cm ² /(sec-cm Hg)
Carbon Dioxide (@ 30°C)	4.6x10 ⁻¹² in ² /sec ² -atm	3.5x10 ⁻¹⁰ cm ² /(sec-cm Hg)
Nitrogen (@ 30°C)	0.35x10 ⁻¹² in ² /sec ² -atm	0.27x10 ⁻¹⁰ cm ² /(sec-cm Hg)
Water Absorption @ 24 h Immersion	0.03%	0.03%
Mechanical Properties		
Modulus of Elasticity (Young's Modulus)		
Homopolymer	150,000 psi	1,035 N/mm ²
Copolymer	60,000 – 145,000 psi	400 – 1,000 N/mm ²
Poisson's Ratio	0.40 - 0.45	0.40 - 0.45
Hardness, Shore D Scale	55 – 70	55 – 70
Coefficient of Friction	0.29	0.29
Thermal Properties		
DSC Melting Point		
Homopolymer	275 °F	135 °C
Copolymer	230 – 273 °F	110 – 134 °C
Specific Heat (@ 23°C)		2.25 kJ/kg °K
Heat of Fusion		
Homopolymer		245 kJ/kg
Copolymer		140 – 232 kJ/kg
Thermal conductivity		
Homopolymer		0.49 W / m °K
Copolymer		0.40 – 0.47 W / m °K
Vicat Softening Temperature		
Homopolymer	270 °F	132 °C
Copolymer	233 – 266 °F	112 – 130 °C
Coefficient of Linear Thermal Expansion	12 x 10 ⁻⁵ in/(in °F)	12 x 10 ⁻⁵ cm/(cm °C)
Shrinkage	0.018 -0.020 in/in	0.018 – 0.020 cm/cm

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Flammability Properties	English Units	SI Units
Auto-ignition Temperature	>650 °F	>340 °C
Energy Required for Ignition		>2,500 kJ/m ²
Fuel Value Content	19,900 BTU/lb.	
Ignition Temperature – Cloud	790 °F	420 °C
Minimum Radiant Flux for Ignition		20 kW/m ²
Smoke Specific Extension Area	1,855 – 3,320 ft ² /lb.	380 – 610 m ² /kg
Soot Yield	0.06–0.09 lbs. soot/lb polymer	0.03–0.04 kg soot/kg polymer
Electrical Properties	English Units	SI Units
Volume Resistivity	6 x 10 ⁵ Ohm-cm	6 x 10 ⁵ Ohm-cm
Dielectric Constant	2.30 – 2.32 x 10 ⁵ Hertz	2.1 – 2.3 x 10 ⁵ Hertz
Dielectric Strength	600 – 700 Volts/mil	600 – 700 Volts/mil
Power Factor	<0.0001 kHz	<0.0001 kHz
Dissipation Factor		
@ 10 kHz	<0.0005 h	<0.0005 h
@ 1 MHz	<0.0005 h	<0.0005 h
@ 1 GHz	<0.0005 – 0.002 h	<0.0005 – 0.002 h
Arc Resistance	136 – 185 s	136 – 185 s

Data gathered from numerous literature sources over a number of years and is presented as obtained with no guarantees as to the accuracy of the data. Unless otherwise noted, all properties are those of the bulk material at ambient temperature.

Product inquiries:

Marina View Headquarters
 2600 South Shore Blvd.
 Suite 500
 League City, Texas 77573
 Telephone: 281-535-6600
 Fax: 281-535-6764
 Customer Service: 800-527-5419

Battleground Manufacturing Complex
 1230 Independence Parkway South
 La Porte, Texas 77571
 Telephone: 713-307-3000
 Fax: 713-307-3521
 Technical Center: 800-338-0489

www.ineos-op.com

<http://ordersonline.ineos-op.com>

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