

# METHYL ETHYL KETONE (MEK)

CAS Number: 78-93-3

Other Names: Butan-2-one; Methylpropanone; Methylacetone

Formula: C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>8</sub>O

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## PRODUCT INTRODUCTION

Methyl ethyl ketone is a dialkyl ketone. Methyl ethyl ketone appears as colorless fairly volatile liquid with a pleasant pungent odor. It is produced industrially on a large scale, and also occurs in trace amounts in nature. It is soluble in water and is commonly used as an industrial solvent.

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## PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

Color (Pt-Co)	< 5
Water (%wt.)	0.006
Density at 20°C (Kg/L)	0.8048
Gas Chromatographic Analysis	-
MEK Purity (%wt.)	99.92

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## APPLICATIONS

- Over 50 % of the demand for Methyl ethyl ketone products stems from the paints and coatings industry as a low viscosity solution can be obtained without them affecting the film properties of the product. These lacquers are used in the automotive, electrical goods, and furniture industries. It is effective as a surface coating solvent that it has become almost vital to the development of high solids coatings that reduce external emissions.
- MEK is also used in the manufacture of plastics and textiles, the manufacture of printing inks, adhesives, pesticides and also in rubber-based industrial cements.
- It is also used in the chemical industry as it is a precursor to methyl ethyl ketone peroxide which is itself used as a catalyst to initiate the polymerisation of polyester resins used in fibre-glass reinforced products.
- MEK functions as a de-waxing agent during the refining of lubricating oils.
- It is also a component of the solvent system used in producing magnetic tape.

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## **PACKING OPTIONS**

Tanks

Drums

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