



## TECHNICAL INFORMATION SHEET

### Solvent Recommendations By Product Type

TYPE	DESCRIPTION	REDUCER SOLVENTS (5-20%)	RETARDER SOLVENTS (2-5%)
I	<b>NITROCELLULOSE LACQUERS</b>	Approved Lacquer Thinner Active Solvents	Slow Active Solvents
II	<b>CAB LACQUERS</b>	Approved Lacquer Thinner Active Solvents	Slow Active Solvents
III	<b>PRECATALYZED LACQUERS</b>	Approved Lacquer Thinner Active Solvents	Slow Active Solvents
IV	<b>CONVERSION VARNISHES</b>	Approved Thinner/Solvent Blend Aromatic Solvents, Alcohols, Glycol Ethers	Slow Aromatic Solvents Slow Alcohols Slow Glycol Ethers

### Solvent Recommendations Types and Uses

SOLVENT	DESCRIPTION	USES/COMMENTS
Lacquer Thinner	Solvent Blend	May be used with Type I, II and III. HAPs-Free version available.
Acetone	Active—Ketone <sup>1</sup>	Very fast HAPs-Free and VOC-Free reducer. Will cut viscosity in Type I, II and III.
MEK (Methyl Ethyl Ketone)	Active—Ketone	Fast reducer. HAPs solvent. Will cut viscosity in Type I, II and III.
MIAK (Methyl Iso-Amyl Ketone)	Active—Ketone	Retarder solvent. Usually used in Type I, II or III coatings.
MAK (Methyl Amyl Ketone)	Active—Ketone	Retarder solvent. Usually used in Type I, II or III coatings.
MIBK (Methyl Iso-Butyl Ketone)	Active—Ketone	Reducer solvent, HAP solvent. Usually used in Type I, II or III.
Butyl Acetate	Active—Acetate	Reducer solvent. May be used in any of the coating types.
Isobutyl Acetate	Active—Acetate	Reducer solvent. May be used in any of the coating types.
Isobutyl Isobutyrate	Active—Acetate	Retarder solvent. Usually used in Type I, II or III coatings.
PM Acetate	Active—Acetate	Retarder solvent. May be used in any of the coatings types.
Butyl Cellosolve (EB Solvent)	Active—Glycol Ether	Slow Retarder solvent. HAPs solvent. May be used in any of the coatings types.
Dowanol PM	Latent <sup>2</sup> —Glycol ether	Retarder solvent. Usually used in stains or Type IV coatings.
DPM	Latent—Glycol Ether	Slow Retarder solvent. Usually used in Waterborne coatings. Water miscible.
DPNB	Latent—Glycol Ether	Slow Retarder solvent. Usually used in Waterborne coatings. Water miscible.

<sup>1</sup> Active solvents are solvents that can dissolve the resins in use in coatings.

<sup>2</sup> Latent solvents are solvents that alone are not active, but enhance the solvency of active solvents.



**Solvent Recommendations (Cont.)**  
Types and Uses

<b>SOLVENT</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>USES/COMMENTS</b>
Toluene	Diluent <sup>1</sup> —Aromatic	Fast Reducer. HAPs solvent. Usually used in Type I, III or IV coatings. Photoreactive.
Xylene	Diluent—Aromatic	Reducer solvent. HAPs solvent. . Usually used in Type I, II, or IV coatings. Photoreactive.
Aromatic 100	Diluent—Aromatic	Retarder solvent. Usually used in stains or Type IV coatings. Photoreactive.
Aromatic 150	Diluent—Aromatic	Slow Retarder solvent. Usually used in stains and Type IV coatings. Photoreactive.
VM&P Naphtha	Diluent—Aliphatic	Reducer solvent. Usually used in stains.
Mineral Spirits	Diluent—Aliphatic	Slow Reducer. Usually used in stains.
Methanol (Methyl Alcohol)	Latent <sup>2</sup> —Alcohol	Fast reducer. HAP solvent. Usually used in stains or Type IV coatings.
Ethanol (Ethyl Alcohol)	Latent—Alcohol	Fast reducer. Usually used in stains or Type IV coatings.
IPA (Isopropyl Alcohol)	Latent—Alcohol	Fast reducer. Usually used in stains or Type IV coatings.
Isobutyl Alcohol	Latent—Alcohol	Retarder solvent. Used in Type IV coatings. Can affect cure rate.
N-Butyl Alcohol	Latent—Alcohol	Retarder solvent. Used in Type IV coatings. Can affect cure rate.

Please follow recommendations detailed on specific product Technical Data Sheets included in this catalog. If there are any questions about the use of a solvent in a particular system, please contact your Valspar Wood Finishes representative for assistance prior to use.

The list above is not all-inclusive, but is representative of the types of solvents that may be frequently used in the coatings industry. Solvents may or not be available for purchase or recommended for use in all areas due to regulatory restrictions on the sale or use of certain solvents. End-users should verify a product's compliance to all pertinent and applicable regulatory guidelines and requirements affecting them before proceeding with use.

Solvents are not interchangeable. Do not substitute one solvent for another without prior approval from Valspar. All solvents sold under a particular product name are not equal. Temperature and humidity changes can directly affect the behavior of any coating system and the effectiveness of solvents added.

Understand and consider quality and purity carefully before using or recommending usage. Coatings issues may arise if solvents are not of the recommended quality. Blushing may occur in nitrocellulose coatings if the slowest solvent in the system is not an active solvent for nitrocellulose. Addition of alcohols to conversion varnish systems may affect the cure rate of the coating system. Addition of active solvents to a conversion system may affect the coating's ability to lift previously applied coats. Please have locally purchased thinners approved by Valspar prior to using them or recommending their usage in Valspar Wood Finishes products. All adjustments should be tested prior to use.

Contact your Valspar Wood Finishes representative for additional product use recommendations or finishing guidance.

Document: Solvent Recommendations  
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<sup>1</sup> Diluent solvents are non-active solvents, and act only to dilute the active or latent solvents.

<sup>2</sup> Latent solvents are solvents that alone are not active, but enhance the solvency of active solvents.