# **ACETONITRILE**

**CAS Number:** 75-05-8

Other Names: Acetone, Cyanomethane, Ethyl nitrile,

Methanecarbonitrile, Methylcyanide.

Formula: C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>3</sub>N



## PRODUCT INTRODUCTION

Acetonitrile is the chemical compound with the formula  $C_2H_3N$ . This colourless liquid is the simplest organic nitrile (hydrogen cyanide is a simpler nitrile, but the cyanide anion is not classed as organic). It is produced mainly as a byproduct of acrylonitrile manufacture. It is used as a polar aprotic solvent in organic synthesis and in the purification of butadiene.

## PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

Description	Normal Grade	High Purity Grade
Appearance	Transparent liquid, no visible impurities	
Chromaticity (in Hazen) (Pt-Co) ≤	<5	<5
Moisture % (m/m) ≤	0.1%	0.07%
Hydrocyanic Acid % (mg/kg) ≤	3.6	3.6
Acetone (mg/kg) ≤	< 5.0	< 5.0
Acrylonitrile % ≤	< 5.0	< 5.0
Heavy Component (including proponitrile) % ≤	136.0	136.0
Purity % ≥	99.5%	99.8%
Ammonia (mg/kg) ≤	3.22	3.22
Acidity (mg/kg) ≤	28.0	28.0
Density (at 20°C) g/cm <sup>3</sup>	0.781	0.781
Copper (mg/kg) ≤	0.01	0.01
Iron (mg/kg) %≤	0.04	0.04
Boiling Range (Under 0.10133MPa) ° C	81.1~81.8	81.1~81.8

#### **APPLICATIONS**

- Acetonitrile is primarily used as an extraction solvent for butadiene.
- It is used as a chemical intermediate in pesticide manufacturing; and as a solvent for both inorganic and organic compounds.
- It is also included as a starting material for the production of acetophenone, alphanaphthalenacetic acid, thiamine, and acetamidine; to remove tars, phenols, and coloring matter from petroleum hydrocarbons not soluble in Acetonitrile.
- In the laboratory, acetone is used as a polar aprotic solvent in a variety of organic reactions, such as SN2 reactions. The use of acetone solvent is also critical for the Jones oxidation. It is a common solvent for rinsing laboratory glassware because of its low cost and volatility; however, it does not form an azeotrope with water.
- It is used in the production of acrylic fibers; and in pharmaceuticals, perfumes, nitrile rubber, and ABS (Acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene) resins.

#### **PACKAGING OPTIONS**

**Drums** 

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