



TAPPI INSPECTION CHARTS

Q: What material are the charts printed on?

A: TAPPI Size Estimation Charts are printed on contact film, this is a polyethylene terephthalate photographic film consisting of a polyester plastic base with a silver photographic emulsion that is removed during processing that creates the image. TAPPI Dirt Charts are printed on a resin coated water resistant paper

Q: What do the dots represent on the charts?

A: The dots on the charts cover the range of 0.02 to 5.00 square millimeters.

Q: Do those specifications include tolerances?

A: The dots on the chart are correct within an average 10% or 0.005 square millimeters, whichever is the larger.

- Tolerances of plus or minus .005 square millimeters applied to the .02, .03, .04, .05 dots.
- Tolerance of plus or minus 10% applied to the .06, .07, .08, .09, .10, .15, .20, .25, .30, .40, .60, .80, 1.0, 1.5, 2.0, 2.5, 3.0, 4.0, 5.0 dots.

Q: What is the spacing factor between two dot sizes?

A: They are: 0.02, 0.03, 0.04 and so on with an incremental factor of 1.

Q: What do the lines on the chart correlate to?

A: The lines/rectangles are provided for approximate visual comparison and are not measured.

Q: What is TAPPI's most popular inspection chart?

A: The Size Estimation Chart is our most commonly purchased chart. This transparent chart is used for visual inspection of particulates in molded plastics, tubing, packaging and more.

Q: What is the difference between the Size Estimation Chart and the Calibrated Size Chart?

A: These are the same chart, with no deviation or difference in the template or correction factors. The difference is that an advanced quality inspection process is performed on the Calibrated Charts. Each dot size is measured with a high density microscope and this is recorded and provided with the chart. The hologram with the serial number allows the manufacturer to trace the calibrated chart to the exact lot and measurements performed.

Q: If a company chooses to laminate the Calibrated Size Estimation Charts, would this negate the certified calibration?

A: It is possible the lamination will cause some optical dot gain which could affect the measurements taken during calibration. With this in mind we cannot guarantee the measurements remain accurate, so this would negate the "calibration" certification.



Q: Are all of the charts transparent?

A: No, the TAPPI Dirt Estimation Chart is printed on an opaque, white background. This is the only chart that can properly be used in reflected light tests to determine EBA (equivalent black area). The template is the same as the Size Estimation and Calibrate Size Estimation Charts.

Q: Can the Size Estimation Charts be cleaned with water?

A: The manufacturer's recommendation is to use 98% or higher (lab grade) alcohol or actual film cleaner is best as the charts are printed on photographic film. You want to reduce the amount or potential for water to touch the film.

Q: What are the storage recommendations?

A: Recommended environmental conditions for the storage and use of the chart: relative humidity 50% +/-10%, temperature 75 degrees +/-5 degrees F. The film can change size very slightly under extreme temperature and relative humidity conditions. The recommended environmental condition for the storage are guidelines; the film is dimensionally stable in normal working environments. The charts should be stored in a dustproof package.

Q: What is the expiration for TAPPI Charts?

A: The manufacturer's recommendation is to replace charts every two years. This was added in response to requests by ISO customers. This recommendation is based on wear and tear. The charts may last longer until the dots fade or the actual film is damaged.

Q: When should Calibrated Size Estimation Charts be recalibrated?

A: Recalibration is determined by the individual company's QC program. Once the need to recalibrate is determined, customers should purchase a new chart. TAPPI Charts are not recalibrated.

Q: Can you order a chart with a custom template?

A: A custom chart would be very expensive because these would typically be small print runs as compared to commercially proven charts.

Additional questions or to place an order with Purchase Order or by phone:

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