

Printable: Chemical Grades

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Printable Guide to Chemical Grades (Alphabetical Order)

Grade	Definition
ACS Grade	High purity chemical grade. Materials meet or exceed the specifications outlined by the American Chemical Society (ACS).
Analytical Grade	High purity reagents meeting standards best suited for analytical procedures.
Bacteriological Grade	Reagents meeting standards ideal for most cell culture and molecular biology applications. (Typically media components)
BP Grade	Materials that meet the specifications developed by the British Pharmacopoeia.
Electrophoresis Grade	Materials suited for use in electrophoresis applications
EP Grade	Reagents that meet the specifications developed by the European pharmacopoeia.
FCC Grade	Reagents or chemicals that meet the specifications and purity requirements of the Food Chemicals Codex. These materials are specially tested for toxicity and are suitable for human use.
Histology Grade	Chemicals that are suited for histology and immunohistochemistry.
HPLC Grade	High-quality materials tested for suitability in HPLC applications.
JP Grade	Reagents that meet the specifications developed by the Japanese pharmacopoeia.
Lab Grade	Materials of high quality but undefined impurities. These chemicals are useful for educational or demonstration purposes only.
Medical Grade	Reagents that have been rigorously tested and screened for trace pathogens.
Molecular Biology Grade	Materials tested for impurities such as enzymatic activity, DNases, RNases, proteases and nucleic acid contaminants that might interfere with molecular biology applications.
NF Grade	<i>(NF materials now fall under USP)</i> – Materials that comply with the National Formulary specifications.
Reagent Grade	High-quality materials that typically meet the same standards as ACS grade reagents.
Pharmaceutical Grade	Compounds considered to be an active or inactive biologic, drug or reagent where a standard of purity has been set by a national pharmacopeia (USP, BP, JP, EP, etc.)
Technical Grade	Chemicals of good quality, useful for industrial or demonstrative purposes.
Tissue Culture Grade	Materials of high purity, suitable for use in tissue culture applications.
USP Grade	Materials that meet the specifications developed by the United States Pharmacopoeia.
Ultra Pure	High-purity materials where impurities must be very low – in the parts per trillion or parts per billion level. These materials are considered to have a purity level exceeding USP monographs.

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