

# Sodium Hypochlorite

## Technical Bulletin

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### Description and Use

Sodium Hypochlorite is a concentrated solution of sodium hypochlorite in water. When packed it contains 12.5% available chlorine. Sodium Hypochlorite loses strength, especially in hot weather, so the product may contain less than 12.5% chlorine when used. Sodium Hypochlorite is a clear yellow liquid with a strong chlorine odour.

### Features and Benefits

Sodium Hypochlorite is a concentrated product offering a low cost in use sanitiser and bleach. Sodium Hypochlorite can be used as a laundry bleach on white fabrics, as a bleach for stains in the kitchen and also as a sanitiser.

### How to Use

Sodium Hypochlorite is normally diluted with water to make a bleach, which is then further diluted with water before use. Sodium Hypochlorite loses strength with storage. This loss is fastest in the concentrated form, so to maximise product strength dilute the whole drum down to make 2 -3 drums of bleach as soon as possible.

For example, consider solutions stored at 25°C for 28 days

Original Strength %	Final Strength %	Loss %
12.5	10.5	2.0
6.0	5.77	0.23
4.0	3.92	0.08

As you can see the loss will be much less if the product is diluted with 1 to 2 parts of water. When diluting always use clean filtered water. Avoid contact with any metals including stainless steel. Make up in clean rinsed drums fitted with vented caps. Label the product with the correct details. The final solution stability will depend on the purity of the water and cleanliness of the drums.

Heat has a significant effect on the storage life of Sodium Hypochlorite. Look at details for a 12.5% solution stored for 28 days at different temperatures.

Temperature °C	Strength %	Loss %
20	11.4	1.1
25	10.5	2.0
30	9.0	3.5
35	7.1	5.4

The temperatures shown are for continuous storage at that temperature.

For maximum product shelf life store in a cool well ventilated area away from direct sunlight. Store below

25°C. Never store in garden sheds or other hot locations. Always rotate stocks using up old product first, or using old stock for non critical applications such as stain removal. If use is limited consider purchasing a more dilute bleach such as Shor Bleach to ensure fresh material is available. For critical applications check solution strength with chlorine test strips before use.

### Technical Data

Sodium Hypochlorite is a solution of sodium hypochlorite in water. It contains a small amount of residual caustic soda to stabilise the solution. It has a pH of 13.0 in the neat form.

### Pack Sizes

15L Drum

Code: 13992

### Dominant Colour Code



### Hazard Information & Safety

Classified as hazardous according to Safe Work Australia criteria.

R31 Contact with acids liberates toxic gas.  
R34 Causes burns

Poisons Schedule: 5  
Dangerous Goods: 8

Wear chemical resistant gloves, overalls and safety goggles when using Sodium Hypochlorite.

