



FINGERPRINT POWDERS, CHEMICAL REAGENTS, COMPOUNDS AND SOLUTIONS SHELF LIFE AND STORAGE

SIRCHIE manufactures and formulates evidence identification and collection equipment, materials and supplies that are designed, manufactured, assembled and/or formulated in strict accordance with the standards and formulas commonly accepted within the scientific community. All chemicals and reagents are shipped in the recommended storage media.

Fingerprint Powders

Fingerprint powders have a long shelf life. All SIRCHIE fingerprint powders are guaranteed for 12 months from date of purchase, but with proper care, can easily be usable for up to 5 years. It should be noted that some pigments used in the powders will lose color strength over the years depending on the powder, so the examiner should not keep powders for excessive amounts of time. The key to longevity in powder is to avoid moisture and cross contamination. To accomplish this, keep the powder in its original packaging, replacing the lid when not in use, and avoid cross contamination by removing working powder and not placing the brush directly into the powder container.

Development Reagents

Reagents sold by SIRCHIE are sold in powder and premixed forms. Powders have shelf life the same as most fingerprint powder, if properly stored in their original container and the lid remains on when not in use, the powders are guaranteed for 12 months and can be used for as long as 2 years. Liquid chemicals are actually mixtures, and therefore have a definite shelf life. SIRCHIE guarantees its non-aerosol chemical blends 90 days from shipment. Most liquid reagents have a shelf life of 6 months. After this period, many of the solvents and ingredients in these formulations will diminish in strength or lose their reaction capability, and therefore chemicals that will not be used within 6 months, should not be purchased until required. Aerosol based reagents are under pressure and stored in a sealed container, and therefore have a longer shelf life. SIRCHIE will guarantee 90 days, but most aerosol reagents will retain their effectiveness up to 12 months.

All reagents, both powder and liquid, are shipped in containers specified for the chemical type. Liquid chemicals are packed in chemical resistant plastic containers, with chemical resistant lids and sealing devices. Certain light sensitive chemicals are packed in amber containers to eliminate degradation due to ambient light. Most reagents can be stored in a dry, dark, room temperature environment (21°C / 70°F). All chemicals containing strong acids, bases, biological hazards, and oxidizers should be stored according to federal and local regulations. Consult your MSDS for information regarding contents.



NARKI, NARKII, and other ampoule based tests

NARK reagents and other ampoule based kits have a shelf life of 12 months from date of sale. These reagents are sealed in glass ampoules, which protect them from atmospheric contaminants and moisture. These ampoules are shipped in boxes or kits and should remain in these until ready for use. Remaining in the boxes or kits protects the reagents from exposure to light, which is detrimental to the chemistry. As with other reagents, these should be stored in a dry, dark, room temperature storage area.

Specialty Storage Requirements

Store all flammables such as acetone, ethanol, methanol and petroleum ether, and any reagent mixes containing these components, in a **flammable** storage cabinet. Flammable cabinets should be properly labeled according to federal and local laws.

Some special chemicals (DFO crystals, amido black, and cyanoacrylate liquids) should be kept in a **laboratory type** refrigerator (approximately 3°C / 37°F) to increase their shelf life.

For additional information, please contact Customer Service.

Email: customerservice@sirchie.com

Phone: 800-356-7311 / International +1-919-554-2244

Fax: 1-800-899-8181