

**LEE S. McDONALD, INC.** est. 1976  
THE SOURCE FOR THE PAPER ARTS

**METHYL CELLULOSE:  
Dow Methocel A4C, Premium Grade**

Methyl Cellulose is used in papermaking as an adhesive, sizing, and to some extent as an internal strengthener. It can be directly added to a vat or beater, or used as a surface size by dipping wet sheets into a tub filled with Methyl Cellulose. It can be brushed directly on sheets, or used internally in sculptured pulp. This grade is considered archivally safe and is used extensively by conservators for restoring documents. It is non yellowing and reversible when properly used.

**Solution Preparation:**

Solutions of Methyl Cellulose can be made up to 10-15% concentrations. 3/4 cup stock solution is needed per 1 1/2 lbs. cotton or abaca pulp. 1/3 cup stock solution is required per 1 1/2 lbs. of flax pulp. Check the viscosity of the finished solution and adjust to your needs.

**Basic Instructions:**

Dissolve 8 tsp. Methyl Cellulose into 1/2 cup boiling water. Stir until all particles are thoroughly wetted. Add 1 cup of cold water (as close to freezing as possible). Continue stirring until the mixture is smooth. Note: For maximum clarity and reproducible control of viscosities, the solution should be cooled to 0-5°C (32-41°F) for 20-40 minutes. This stock solution can be stored. In most cases, further dilution will be necessary.

Dow Methocel premium grade is a food grade additive, so it can be safely ingested, but has no food value. Avoid heavy concentrations of the dust. Wear a dust mask when making stock solutions.

**Please read for your protection: Warranty information**

All information and suggestions in this product handout is only the opinion of Lee S. McDonald Inc. Since each artist has their own personal technique, and other numerous factors are involved, we cannot guarantee that the products will perform to each individuals' satisfaction. Testing of our products should be undertaken by the consumer to determine whether the product meets the intended needs. The user is responsible for final determination of suitability. Lee S. McDonald Inc. makes no warranty of any kind, express or implied, other than that the material conforms to its applicable current Standard Specifications. The responsibility of Lee S. McDonald Inc. for claims arising out of breach of warranty, negligence, strict liability, or otherwise, is limited to the purchase price of the material or product. We cannot be liable for the occurrence of incidental or consequential damages. If you have any questions about this methyl cellulose please contact us.

**\*For more health information contact a physician or your local poison control center.**

**Data safety sheets on this product are on file; a set of data safety sheets for the products we sell is available for \$20.00. For more information on art hazards and safety, consult the Center for Occupational Hazards, 5 Beekman St. New York, NY 10038.**

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