



## ASCORBIC ACID

MSDS Number: A7608 --- Effective Date: 12/08/96

### 1. Product Identification

**Synonyms:** L-ascorbic acid; vitamin C; L-3-Ketothreohexuronic acid lactone  
**CAS No.:** 50-81-7  
**Molecular Weight:** 176.13  
**Chemical Formula:** C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>8</sub>O<sub>6</sub>  
**Product Codes:** J.T. Baker: 0936, 0937, 0938, B581 Mallinckrodt: 1852, 4407, 8829

### 2. Composition/Information on Ingredients

Ingredient	CAS No	Percent	Hazardous
L-Ascorbic Acid	50-81-7	100%	Yes

### 3. Hazards Identification

#### Emergency Overview

As part of good industrial and personal hygiene and safety procedure, avoid all unnecessary exposure to the chemical substance and ensure prompt removal from skin, eyes and clothing.

J.T. Baker SAF-T-DATA<sup>(tm)</sup> Ratings (Provided here for your convenience)

Health Rating: 1 - Slight  
Flammability Rating: 1 - Slight  
Reactivity Rating: 0 - None  
Contact Rating: 1 - Slight  
Lab Protective Equip: GOGGLES; LAB COAT  
Storage Color Code: Orange (General Storage)

#### Potential Health Effects

Ascorbic acid is relatively non-hazardous in routine industrial situations. It is not expected to present significant health risks to the workers who use it.

#### Inhalation:

May cause mild irritation to the respiratory tract.

#### Ingestion:

Large oral doses may cause gastrointestinal disturbances.

#### Skin Contact:

May cause mild irritation.

#### Eye Contact:

May cause mild irritation.

#### Chronic Exposure:

No information found.

#### Aggravation of Pre-existing Conditions:

No information found.

### 4. First Aid Measures

See Health Hazards General.

#### Inhalation:

If inhaled, remove to fresh air. If not breathing, give artificial respiration. If breathing is difficult, give oxygen. Get medical attention if irritation persists.

**Ingestion:**

Give several glasses of water to drink to dilute. If large amounts were swallowed, get medical advice.

**Skin Contact:**

Wash exposed area with soap and water. Get medical advice if irritation develops.

**Eye Contact:**

Wash thoroughly with running water. Get medical advice if irritation develops.

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## 5. Fire Fighting Measures

**Fire:**

As with most organic solids, fire is possible at elevated temperatures or by contact with an ignition source.

**Explosion:**

Not considered to be an explosion hazard.

**Fire Extinguishing Media:**

Use any means suitable for extinguishing surrounding fire.

**Special Information:**

In the event of a fire, wear full protective clothing and NIOSH-approved self-contained breathing apparatus with full facepiece operated in the pressure demand or other positive pressure mode.

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## 6. Accidental Release Measures

Ventilate area of leak or spill. Wear appropriate personal protective equipment as specified in Section 8. Spills: Pick up and place in a suitable container for reclamation or disposal, using a method that does not generate dust.

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## 7. Handling and Storage

Keep in a tightly closed container, stored in a cool, dry, ventilated area. Protect against physical damage. Isolate from any source of heat or ignition. Isolate from incompatible substances. Containers of this material may be hazardous when empty since they retain product residues (dust, solids); observe all warnings and precautions listed for the product.

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## 8. Exposure Controls/Personal Protection

**Airborne Exposure Limits:**

- OSHA Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL): 15 mg/m<sup>3</sup> total dust, 5 mg/m<sup>3</sup> respirable fraction for nuisance dusts. - ACGIH Threshold Limit Value (TLV): 10 mg/m<sup>3</sup> total dust containing no asbestos and < 1% crystalline silica for Particulates Not Otherwise Classified (PNOC).

**Ventilation System:**

In general, dilution ventilation is a satisfactory health hazard control for this substance. However, if conditions of use create discomfort to the worker, a local exhaust system should be considered.

**Personal Respirators (NIOSH Approved):**

If the exposure limit is exceeded, a half-face dust/mist respirator may be worn for up to ten times the exposure limit or the maximum use concentration specified by the appropriate regulatory agency or respirator supplier, whichever is lowest. A full-face piece dust/mist respirator may be worn up to 50 times the exposure limit, or the maximum use concentration specified by the appropriate regulatory agency, or respirator supplier, whichever is lowest. For emergencies or instances where the exposure levels are not known, use a full-facepiece positive-pressure, air-supplied respirator. WARNING: Air-purifying respirators do not protect workers in oxygen-deficient atmospheres.

**Skin Protection:**

Wear protective gloves and clean body-covering clothing.

**Eye Protection:**

Use chemical safety goggles. Maintain eye wash fountain and quick-drench facilities in work area.

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## 9. Physical and Chemical Properties

**Appearance:**

White crystals.

**Odor:**

Odorless.

**Solubility:**

33g/100g water.

**Density:**

1.65

**pH:**

3 for 5mg/L aqueous solution; 2 for 50mg/L aqueous solution.

**% Volatiles by volume @ 21C (70F):**

0

**Boiling Point:**

Not applicable.

**Melting Point:**

192C (378F) Slightly decomposes.

**Vapor Density (Air=1):**

No information found.

**Vapor Pressure (mm Hg):**

No information found.

**Evaporation Rate (BuAc=1):**

No information found.

## 10. Stability and Reactivity

**Stability:**

Stable under ordinary conditions of use and storage. Aqueous solutions are rapidly oxidized by air.

**Hazardous Decomposition Products:**

May produce acrid smoke and irritating fumes when heated to decomposition.

**Hazardous Polymerization:**

Will not occur.

**Incompatibilities:**

Strong oxidizers and alkali hydroxides, alkalis, iron, copper, sodium salicylate, sodium nitrite, theobromine and methenamine.

**Conditions to Avoid:**

No information found.

## 11. Toxicological Information

Oral (rat) LD50 11,900. Investigated as a tumorigen, mutagen, and reproductive effector.

Ingredient	---NTP Carcinogen---		IARC Category
	Known	Anticipated	
L-Ascorbic Acid (50-81-7)	No	No	None

## 12. Ecological Information

**Environmental Fate:**

No information found.

**Environmental Toxicity:**

No information found.

## 13. Disposal Considerations

Whatever cannot be saved for recovery or recycling should be managed in an appropriate and approved waste disposal facility. Processing, use or contamination of this product may change the waste management options. State and local disposal regulations may differ from federal disposal regulations. Dispose of container and unused contents in accordance with federal, state and local requirements.

## 14. Transport Information

Not regulated.

## 15. Regulatory Information

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-----\Chemical Inventory Status - Part 1\-----
Ingredient                                     TSCA  EC   Japan  Australia
-----
L-Ascorbic Acid (50-81-7)                     Yes  Yes   Yes    Yes
```

```
-----\Chemical Inventory Status - Part 2\-----
Ingredient                                     --Canada--
Korea  DSL   NDSL  Phil.
-----
L-Ascorbic Acid (50-81-7)                     Yes  Yes   No     Yes
```

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-----\Federal, State & International Regulations - Part 1\-----
Ingredient                                     -SARA 302-  -SARA 313-
RQ     TPQ     List  Chemical Catg.
-----
L-Ascorbic Acid (50-81-7)                     No     No     No     No
```

```
-----\Federal, State & International Regulations - Part 2\-----
Ingredient                                     -RCRA-    -TSCA-
CERCLA  261.33   8(d)
-----
L-Ascorbic Acid (50-81-7)                     No       No     No
```

Chemical Weapons Convention: No    TSCA 12(b): No    CDTA: No  
 SARA 311/312: Acute: No    Chronic: No    Fire: No    Pressure: No  
 Reactivity: No    (Pure / Solid)

**Australian Hazchem Code:** No information found.  
**Poison Schedule:** No information found.

**WHMIS:**  
 This MSDS has been prepared according to the hazard criteria of the Controlled Products Regulations (CPR) and the MSDS contains all of the information required by the CPR.

## 16. Other Information

**NFPA Ratings:** Health: 1 Flammability: 0 Reactivity: 0

**Label Hazard Warning:**  
 As part of good industrial and personal hygiene and safety procedure, avoid all unnecessary exposure to the chemical substance and ensure prompt removal from skin, eyes and clothing.

**Label Precautions:**  
 None.

**Label First Aid:**  
 Not applicable.

**Product Use:**  
 Laboratory Reagent.

**Revision Information:**  
 Pure. New 16 section MSDS format, all sections have been revised.

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