

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

SKC LeadSense Swab Kit

Swab test for lead on surfaces: mixing the solution, taking and reading a swab sample, interferences, and handling, storing and disposing of the kit's materials.

AMTC-IN-0076

About this document

The SKC LeadSense™ Swab Kit discloses the presence of lead on surfaces. You mix the kit's two reagents, wet a swab in the mixed solution and wipe the surface. Within seconds a pink or red colour on the swab shows lead above the test's lower limit of visual identification, 1 µg of lead.

Read Safety (p. 4) before you open the kit, and check in What the test detects (p. 5) that the test suits your lead compounds. Before use (p. 6) and Procedure (p. 7) then take you through the test itself; After use and sample handling (p. 9) explains how to store, handle and dispose of the kit's materials.

These instructions apply to the LeadSense Swab Kit, Cat. No. 550-200: 10 swabs, a vial of Extraction Solution, a vial of Disclosing Powder and a pair of disposable nitrile gloves.

Keep these instructions for the lifetime of the product. The current revision is on the product page at analyt-mtc.com.

NOTICE

Limited shelf life. The kit has an expiry date, printed on the packaging. An expired kit can give an invalid result. Check the date before you use the kit.

How these instructions mark information

⚠ CAUTION

A hazardous situation which, if not avoided, could result in minor or moderate injury.

NOTICE

Practices not related to personal injury — damage to the product, the process or the sample.

Document information

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Rev.	Date	Change
1	November 2026	First issue.

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CHAPTER 1

Safety

Read the safety messages in this chapter before you open the kit. The kit contains a reagent powder and an acidic solution. Handle them with the precautions below. The gloves that protect you from the chemicals also keep the swabs from being contaminated.

Intended use

The kit shows lead on surfaces: elemental lead and lead compounds that dissolve easily. It is not designed or intended for lead chromates, alkyl lead or other lead compounds that do not dissolve easily (see What the test detects (p. 5)). Abrade a painted surface before you sample it (see Taking the sample (p. 7)).

Before you start

NOTICE

Leaving out a step of a procedure can give a false result. Follow every step of the procedures in these instructions carefully, in the order given.

NOTICE

Limited shelf life. The kit has an expiry date, printed on the packaging. An expired kit can give an invalid result. Check the date before you use the kit.

Gloves and contamination

Wear the nitrile gloves from the kit whenever you prepare the mixed solution and whenever you handle a swab. They protect your skin from the reagents and the swab from contamination.

The chemicals

⚠ CAUTION

The Disclosing Powder can harm your health through contact with the eyes or skin, by inhalation or by swallowing. Wear chemical-resistant gloves — the nitrile gloves in the kit. Keep the powder away from your eyes, skin and clothing. Do not breathe in the powder and do not swallow it. Avoid prolonged or repeated exposure, and wash thoroughly after handling. Do not store the kit with food.

⚠ CAUTION

The Extraction Solution is an acidic solution. It is non-toxic, but it can irritate the eyes and mucous membranes. Avoid contact with the eyes and mucous membranes, and do not breathe it in for long periods.

Safety Data Sheets for the Disclosing Powder and the Extraction Solution give further details; ask Analyt-MTC for them.

CHAPTER 2

Product and supplied items

What is in the kit

Item	What it is for
10 swabs	Collecting lead from the surface
A vial of Extraction Solution (black cap)	Acidic solution. Poured into the Disclosing Powder vial, it becomes the mixed solution.
A vial of Disclosing Powder (green cap)	Powdered potassium rhodizonate compound, the colour reagent. The solution is mixed in this vial, and the swabs are wetted in it through the green cap.
A pair of disposable nitrile gloves	Protection, and keeping the swabs clean



Figure 2-1. The LeadSense Swab Kit. From left: Disclosing Powder vial (green cap), Extraction Solution vial (black cap), 10 swabs. The nitrile gloves are not shown.

How the test works

You pour the Extraction Solution into the Disclosing Powder vial and mix them; the mixed solution turns orange. You then wet a swab in the mixed solution and wipe the surface. Within seconds a pink or red colour shows lead above the test's lower limit of visual identification, 1 µg of lead. A yellow to deep orange colour indicates that any lead present is below that limit. Reading the result (p. 8) gives the details.

What the test detects

LeadSense is designed to detect elemental lead and lead compounds that dissolve easily. The extraction solution does not dissolve every lead compound, so the test does not see them all.

Suitable for	Not designed or intended for
• elemental lead • lead nitrate • lead sulfate • lead acetate • lead oxides	• lead chromates • alkyl lead, such as tetraethyllead (TEL) or tetramethyllead (TML) • other lead compounds that do not dissolve easily

On painted surfaces, abrade the surface before you sample it (see Taking the sample (p. 7)). Some other metals can also colour the swab; see Interferences (p. 8).

CHAPTER 3

Before use

Check the expiry date on the packaging before you start, and do not store the kit with food. How to keep the powder and the solution is in Storing, handling and disposing of the materials (p. 9).

Preparing the mixed solution

Wear the kit's nitrile gloves while you prepare the solution (see Gloves and contamination (p. 4)).

1. Put on the gloves.
2. Pour the **entire** contents of the Extraction Solution vial into the vial containing the Disclosing Powder.
3. Cap the vial and shake it until the contents are thoroughly mixed. The solution turns orange.

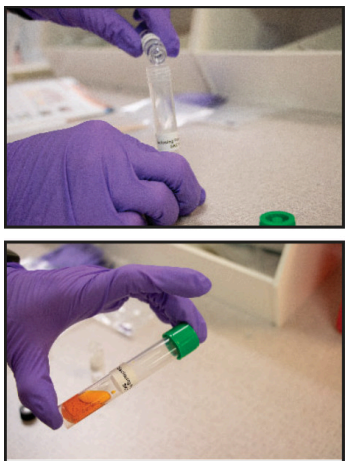


Figure 3-1. Top: pour the Extraction Solution into the Disclosing Powder vial. Bottom: cap the vial and shake it; the solution turns orange.

How long the mixed solution lasts

The mixed solution stays active for up to 8–10 hours at room temperature. Once it has expired, discard it (see Storing, handling and disposing of the materials (p. 9)).

CHAPTER 4

Procedure

A test has two stages: take the swab sample, then read the swab straight away. Prepare the mixed solution first (see Preparing the mixed solution (p. 6)), and wear the kit's nitrile gloves throughout (see Gloves and contamination (p. 4)).

Taking the sample

On a painted surface, abrade the surface before you sample it.

1. With a gloved hand, open the green cap on the vial with the mixed solution.
2. Insert one swab into the cap.
3. Close the cap again.
4. Dip the swab into the liquid.
5. If the swab is not completely coated, shake the vial.
6. Shake off the excess solution.
7. Wipe the surface you are testing with gentle pressure.

Solution that gets onto the surface, such as walls or tools, can be cleaned off with soap and water.

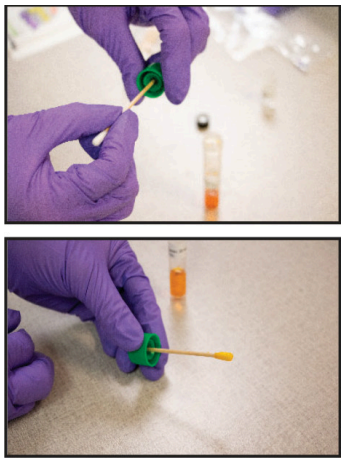


Figure 4-1. Top: insert one swab into the green cap. Bottom: the swab, coated with the mixed solution.

Reading the result

NOTICE

The colour appears within seconds and begins to fade quickly as the swab dries. A colour read late can be missed. Read the result immediately after wiping.

1. Read the colour of the swab **at once**, using the table below.

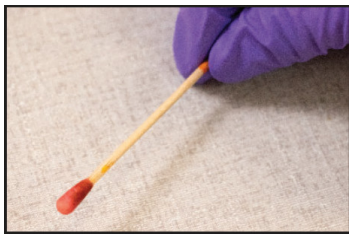


Figure 4-2. A swab with a red tip: lead above the lower limit of visual identification.

What the colour means

Colour of the swab	Result
Pink or red	Lead is present **above** the lower limit of visual identification.
Yellow to deep orange	Lead is possibly present **below** the lower limit of visual identification.

Lower limit of visual identification: **1 µg of lead**. Other compounds can also cause a colour change; see Interferences (p. 8).

Interferences

Silver, cadmium, barium, mercury and titanium can also make the swab change colour, but only at higher concentrations than lead — the test is less sensitive to them. Silver, titanium and mercury give a red hue, from reddish purple to hot pink, that differs from the colour of lead. Tin, at high concentrations, shows as an opaque white.

NOTICE

These elements can produce a colour reaction that is not caused by lead. If you suspect that any of them is present, first determine whether it is there, and how much, with another test method. Only then test for lead with LeadSense.

CHAPTER 5

After use and sample handling

Used swabs are not kept: dispose of each swab after you have read it. The table below says how to store, handle and dispose of each material of the kit.

Storing, handling and disposing of the materials

Dispose of anything that cannot be kept for recovery or recycling at an approved waste disposal facility, following national and local environmental regulations — except where the table allows otherwise.

Material	Storing	Handling	Disposing
Disclosing Powder powdered potassium rhodizonate compound	Vial tightly closed, in a cool, dry place.	Wear chemical-resistant gloves (included in the kit). See The chemicals (p. 4).	At an approved waste disposal facility.
Extraction Solution acidic solution	At room temperature.	Non-toxic; avoid contact with the eyes and mucous membranes, and prolonged inhalation.	Non-polluting: dilute with water and pour down a sink drain.
Swabs after testing	Do not keep them.	Wear nitrile gloves so that the swab is not contaminated.	Used swabs and any unused material: following national and local environmental regulations.

Discard the mixed solution once it has expired (see How long the mixed solution lasts (p. 6)).

CHAPTER 6

Ordering information

Order from Analyt-MTC with the order code.

The kit has a limited shelf life; check the expiry date on the packaging.

Description	Pack	Order code
SKC LeadSense Swab Kit: 10 swabs, a vial of Extraction Solution, a vial of Disclosing Powder and a pair of disposable nitrile gloves (contents: see What is in the kit (p. 5))	pack of 10 swabs	550-200

CHAPTER 7

Service and contacts

The SKC LeadSense Swab Kit is made by SKC. Analyt-MTC is your contact for it.

Ordering and support

ANALYT-MTC Messtechnik GmbH

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Ordering and questions

Analyt-MTC supplies the LeadSense Swab Kit and answers your questions about the test and its scope. Order with the order code in Ordering information (p. 10). Warranty and returns follow the terms of Analyt-MTC.

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