**Information on Absorbency Levels - TENA**

**Total ISO Absorbency**

ISO (International Organisation for Standardisation) Absorbency is a standardised absorbency level.

This method measures the Total Absorbency of a pad. The pad is weighed dry, then fully immersed in water, and then re-weighted after a short drying period.

Most incontinence products will be labelled with the ISO Total Absorbency as it allows the user to directly compare one product or brand to another. It is important to note however that it is not recommended to ever use an incontinence product to its full capacity, as it will be saturated, cause the product to be heavy, uncomfortable and damp against the skin with a risk of skin irritation.

When selecting the most suitable product, we would suggest referring to the working absorbency level.

**Rothwell Banding Scale**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Insert Pad Band Number** | **Minimum ISO Absorbency Capacity (ml)** | **Maximum ISO Absorbency Capacity (ml)** | **Absorbency Range (ml)** | **All-in-One/ Pant Band Number** | **Minimum ISO Absorbency Capacity (ml)** | **Maximum ISO Absorbency Capacity (ml)** |
| I1 | 0 | 49 | 50 |  |  |  |
| I2 | 50 | 99 | 50 |  |  |  |
| I3 | 100 | 199 | 100 |  |  |  |
| I4 | 200 | 299 | 100 |  |  |  |
| I5 | 300 | 449 | 150 |  |  |  |
| I6 | 450 | 599 | 150 |  |  |  |
| I7 | 600 | 799 | 200 |  |  |  |
| I8 | 800 | 999 | 200 |  |  |  |
| I9 | 1000 | 1249 | 250 |  |  |  |
| I10 | 1250 | 1499 | 250 |  |  |  |
| I11 | 1500 | 1799 | 300 |  |  |  |
| I12 | 1800 | 2099 | 300 |  |  |  |
| I13 | 2100 | 2499 | 400 |  |  |  |
| I14 | 2500 | 2899 | 400 | D14 | 1300 | 1699 |
| I15 | 2900 | 3299 | 400 | D15 | 1700 | 2099 |
|  |  |  | 400 | D16 | 2100 | 2499 |
|  |  |  | 400 | D17 | 2500 | 2899 |
|  |  |  | 400 | D18 | 2900 | 3299 |
|  |  |  | 400 | D19 | 3300 | 3699 |
|  |  |  | 400 | D20 | 3700 | 4099 |
|  |  |  | 400 | D21 | 4100 | 4499 |
|  |  |  | 400 | D22 | 4500 | + |

The Rothwell Banding System is based on the ISO Total Absorbency and is used by some brands and nursing manuals to help users select the most appropriate product.

The scale measures the minimum and maximum ISO Total Absorbencies of the products, also providing an absorbency range. The Rothwell Band then ranks the products from lowest to highest absorbency, with a scale of 1-22. Insert, rectangular and shaped pads are identified by the prefix “I”, whilst all-in-ones and pants have a prefix “D”. For example, an incontinence pant with an absorbency of 1800ml would be ranked as a D15, whilst an insert pad with an absorbency of 250ml would be I4.

**Working Absorbency**

The Working Absorbency is the amount of liquid the product will absorb during normal use, measured by weighing the pad before and after use. It is very variable, and depends on a range of factors including the health and physicality of the user, the type and fit of the incontinence product, the type of support underwear used, and the type of incontinence.

As a general rule, Working Absorbency is 30-50% of the ISO Total Absorbency. For example, and ISO capacity of 1000ml may have working capacity of 300-500ml. Many incontinence products feature a Wetness Indicator on the back of the pad to indicate how full the pad is – Most manufacturers recommend that the product is changed when the indicator is two thirds full, to ensure that the pad does not become damp, heavy and uncomfortable.

**We advertise all of our incontinence products with the ISO Total Absorbency.**

**Droplet Scales**

Droplet scales provide the user with a quick and easy to use method of identifying the absorbency levels within a range of products. The more droplets that are filled, the more absorbent the product.

It is important to note however that different brands have different Droplet scales, and so comparing droplets across different brands may not show the same levels of absorbency. For example, 4 drops on an 8 drop scale may be medium absorbency, whilst 4 drops on 4 drop scale would be high absorbency.

To help you identify the absorbency levels of the products that we sell, please see below a list of our Disposable Incontinence Products by TENA. This list identifies the Droplet Scale, Total Absorbency, Product Name, Product Type and Colour Codes used by TENA. If you need further information please call our customer services team on 01952 913112.

**TENA Absorbency Scale**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Droplets** | **Total Absorbency** | **Product Name** | **Product Type** | **Pack Colour Code** |
| 2 out of 8 | 115 ml | TENA Lady Mini | Small Pad | Green |
| 2.5 out of 8 | 170 ml | TENA Lady Mini Plus | Small Pad | Green |
| 3 out of 8 | 245 ml | TENA Men Level 1 | Male Pad | Blue |
| 300 ml | TENA Lady Normal | Small Pad | Green |
| 4 out of 8 | 320 ml | TENA Men Level 2 | Small Pad | Yellow |
| 400 ml | TENA Comfort Mini Extra | Small Pad | Yellow |
| 400 ml | TENA Lady Extra | Male Pad | Blue |
| 5 out of 8 | 400 ml | TENA Men Level 3 | Male Pad | Orange |
| 500 ml | TENA Pants Discreet Medium | Pull Up Pant | Green |
| 500 ml | TENA Pants Discreet Large | Pull Up Pant | Green |
| 800 ml | TENA Comfort Normal | Large Pad | Peach |
| 1100 ml | TENA Lady Pants Discreet Medium | Pull Up Pant | Green |
| 1100 ml | TENA Lady Pants Discreet Large | Pull Up Pant | Green |
| 6 out of 8 | 550 ml | TENA Lady Maxi Night | Small Pad | Lilac |
| 1200 ml | TENA Comfort Plus | Large Pad | Blue |
| 1400 ml | TENA Pants Plus Small | Pull Up Pant | Blue |
| 1400 ml | TENA Pants Plus Medium | Pull Up Pant | Blue |
| 1400 ml | TENA Pants Plus Large | Pull Up Pant | Blue |
| 1400 ml | TENA Pants Plus X Large | Pull Up Pant | Blue |
| 1400 ml | TENA Flex Plus Small | Belted | Blue |
| 1400 ml | TENA Flex Plus Medium | Belted | Blue |
| 1400 ml | TENA Flex Plus Large | Belted | Blue |
| 1400 ml | TENA Flex Plus X Large | Belted | Blue |
| 1400 ml | TENA Slip Plus X Small | All-in-One | Blue |
| 1400 ml | TENA Slip Plus Small | All-in-One | Blue |
| 1400 ml | TENA Slip Plus Medium | All-in-One | Blue |
| 1400 ml | TENA Slip Plus Large | All-in-One | Blue |
| 6.5 out of 8 | 1600 ml | TENA Comfort Extra | Large Pad | Yellow |
| 7 out of 8 | 1700 ml | TENA Flex Super Small | Belted | Green |
| 1700 ml | TENA Flex Super Medium | Belted | Green |
| 1700 ml | TENA Flex Super Large | Belted | Green |
| 1700 ml | TENA Flex Super X Large | Belted | Green |
| 1700 ml | TENA Slip Super Small | All-in-One | Green |
| 1700 ml | TENA Slip Super Medium | All-in-One | Green |
| 1700 ml | TENA Slip Super Large | All-in-One | Green |
| 1800 ml | TENA Slip Super Stretch XX Large | All-in-One | Green |
| 2000 ml | TENA Comfort Super | Large Pad | Green |
| 2200 ml | TENA Pants Super Small | Pull Up Pant | Green |
| 2200 ml | TENA Pants Super Medium | Pull Up Pant | Green |
| 2200 ml | TENA Pants Super Large | Pull Up Pant | Green |
| 2200 ml | TENA Pants Super X Large | Pull Up Pant | Green |
| 8 out of 8 | 2100 ml | TENA Flex Maxi Small | Belted | Lilac |
| 2100 ml | TENA Flex Maxi Medium | Belted | Lilac |
| 2100 ml | TENA Flex Maxi Large | Belted | Lilac |
| 2100 ml | TENA Flex Maxi X Large | Belted | Lilac |
| 2100 ml | TENA Slip Maxi Small | All-in-One | Lilac |
| 2100 ml | TENA Slip Maxi Medium | All-in-One | Lilac |
| 2100 ml | TENA Slip Maxi Large | All-in-One | Lilac |
| 2400 ml | TENA Comfort Maxi | Large Pad | Lilac |
| 2900 ml | TENA Pants Maxi Medium | Pull Up Pant | Lilac |
| 2900 ml | TENA Pants Maxi Large | Pull Up Pant | Lilac |
| 4099 ml | TENA Slip Ultima Medium | All-in-One | White |
| 4099 ml | TENA Slip Ultima Large | All-in-One | White |