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Litmus Paper, Blue

—Usually about 6 × 50 mm in size. It meets the requirements of the following tests.

Phosphate (Reagent test): Cut 5 strips into small pieces, mix with 500 mg of magnesium nitrate in a porcelain crucible, and ignite. To the residue add 5 mL of nitric acid, and evaporate to dryness: the residue shows not more than 0.02 mg of PO₄.

Residue on Ignition: Ignite carefully 10 strips of the paper to constant weight: the weight of the residue corresponds to not more than 0.4 mg per strip of about 3 square cm.

Rosin Acids: Immerse a strip of the blue paper in a solution of 100 mg of silver nitrate in 50 mL of water: the color of the paper does not change in 30 seconds.

Sensitiveness: Drop a 10- to 12-mm strip into 100 mL of 0.0005 N acid contained in a beaker, and stir continuously: the color of the paper is changed within 45 seconds. The 0.0005 N acid is prepared by diluting 1 mL of 0.1 N hydrochloric acid with freshly boiled and cooled purified water to 200 mL.

Auxiliary Information - Please [check for your question in the FAQs](#) before contacting USP.

Topic/Question	Contact	Expert Committee
LITMUS PAPER, BLUE	Margareth R.C. Marques Principal Scientific Liaison	HDQ Headquarters

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