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1 GENERAL INFORMATION

Introduction to Palintest Photometers

Thank you for purchasing this Palintest product.

Palintest instruments and reagents are renowned as being simple to use, whilst providing rapid and reliable results for the testing of water. Our instruments are of the highest quality and fully waterproof.

Palintest's experience, built-up over the last 50 years, is the reason why our instruments and reagents are used in laboratories, treatment plants, leisure facilities and industrial premises throughout the world.

Our products are packaged carefully and the product should reach you in the state it left our factory; if this product has reached you in a state that is less than satisfactory, please contact the transportation company.

This booklet describes the best way to use Palintest products, and provides instructions for the range of water tests that can be performed using this instrument.

Palintest instruments are calibrated for Palintest reagents. To guarantee the high accuracy and performance that our instruments give, you must ensure that only Palintest reagents are used with Palintest instruments. Failure to do so can lead to erroneous results.

Kit Contents

These instructions are designed for use with the following instruments :-

- Chlorometer
- Chlorometer-Duo

The kits contain :-

Chlorometer

Chlorometer Instrument
Chlorometer Instructions
Crushing Rods
Test Tube Brush
2 x Photometer Tubes

Chlorometer-Duo

Chlorometer-Duo Instrument
Chlorometer Instructions
Crushing Rods
Test Tube Brush
2 x Photometer Tubes

Reagents

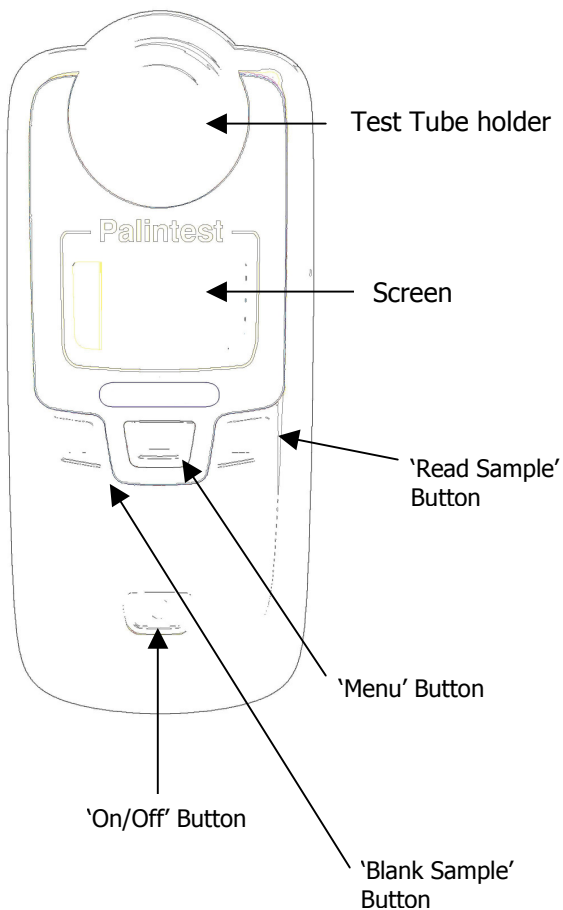
DPD No 1 - Free Chlorine
DPD No 3 - Total Chlorine

Reagents

DPD No 1 - Free Chlorine
DPD No 3 - Total Chlorine
Acidifying GP
Chlorine HR

For re-ordering reagents and accessories, please see Section 6.

Instrument Layout



2 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Introduction to Colorimetric Measurement

Palintest tests are based on measuring the intensity of colours produced by Palintest reagents and using Palintest photometers to measure that intensity of colour. This is colorimetry and can be defined as any technique used to evaluate an unknown colour in reference to known colours.

To avoid subjective measurement between test samples and colour standards, a colorimeter can be used for quantitative measurement of the amount of coloured light absorbed by a sample (with reagents added) in reference to an untreated sample (blank).

White light is made up of many different wavelengths of light.

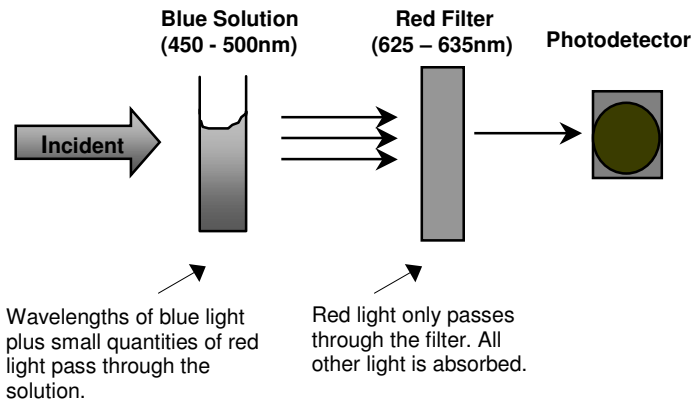
A colorimeter passes a white light beam through an optical filter which transmits only one particular band of wavelength of light to the photodetector where it is measured.

The difference in the amount of coloured light transmitted by a colourless sample (blank) and the amount of coloured light transmitted by a coloured sample is a measurement of the amount of coloured light absorbed by the sample.

The use of filters improves the sensitivity of this process and choice of the correct optical filter (and therefore the correct wavelength) of light is important.

It is interesting to note that the filter that gives the most sensitive calibration for a test factor is the complementary colour of the test sample. For example, the chlorine test produces a pink colour proportional to the chlorine concentration in the sample (the greater the chlorine concentration in the sample (the greater the chlorine concentration, the darker the pink colour). In this case, a green filter gives the greatest sensitivity as a pinkish-red solution absorbs mostly green light.

Palintest photometers calculate and then display the test results directly in milligrams per litre (mg/l) of the test factor, by comparing the amount of absorbed light to the calibration data programmed into the instrument.



Blanks and Samples

Palintest photometers use a BLANK tube to set the instrument to blank and a SAMPLE tube to take the reading.

A BLANK tube is a test tube filled with untreated water sample. A SAMPLE tube is a test tube containing the sample to which reagents have been added in accordance with the test procedure described.

The blank setting is held in memory. It is not necessary to reset the blank each time a reading is taken if the water samples are similar and the conditions of use are the same. The blank setting can be confirmed if necessary by taking a test reading on the blank tube.

Taking a Reading

- 1 Press the 'on/off' button to start the unit.
- 2 Press the 'menu' button until the test you wish to perform is indicated on the screen.
- 3 Insert your blank tube and press the 'blank sample' button.
- 4 An image displaying a blank tube will be displayed on screen. When this is replaced by 0.00 the instrument is finished blanking and ready to take a reading.
- 5 Remove your blank tube and replace it with the sample tube. Press the 'Read Sample' button to take a reading.

The result will be displayed on screen in mg/l.

Care and Maintenance

The handling of the colorimeter tubes is important to ensure continuing accuracy. Scratches, finger-prints and water droplets on the tube or inside the light chamber can cause inaccurate results. It is imperative that the tubes and light chamber are clean and dry. The glassware must be clean and defect-free. Scratches and abrasions will permanently affect the accuracy of the readings. Tubes can be acid washed periodically.

Here are some hints on keeping the photometer clean, free from contamination and in good working order :-

- 1 Prepare your workplace before use. Make sure that you have enough space to work with the photometer and with the reagent systems.
- 2 Do not pour out samples or prepare the tests directly over the instrument.
- 3 Always cap the test tubes after preparing the blank and test sample.
- 4 Wipe test tubes on a clean tissue to remove drips or condensation before placing in the photometer.
- 5 Do not leave tubes standing in the photometer test chamber. Remove the tubes immediately after each test.
- 6 Immediately wipe up any drips or spillages onto the instrument or into the test chamber with a clean tissue.
- 7 Keep the instrument clean. Clean the test chamber regularly using a moistened tissue or cotton bud.

- 8 Keep the instrument in a clean, dry place when it is not in use. Keep it on a clean, dry bench away from chemicals, place it in a storage cupboard or keep it in a carrying case.

Viewing the Instrument Memory

To view the previous results (10 results are stored within the instrument memory), hold the 'menu' button whilst the display showing the selected test or result is on the screen.

Backlight Operation

The backlight can be turned on and off by holding the 'on/off' button for a two second period during power on.

3 TEST PROCEDURES

Before attempting to do any tests, ensure you read 'Blanks and Samples' and the 'Care and Maintenance' sections in Section 2.

To Select the Test

Press the MENU key. The currently selected test will appear on the display :-

1 Chlorine (Free and Total) Cl₂ 5

2 Chlorine HR Cl HR

To change the test selected, press the MENU key until the required test appears on the display.

The ranges in each test refer to the lower limit of detection to the highest value the unit can guarantee accuracy up to.

Chlorine

Range

Cl₂ 5 = 0.01 – 5 mg/l

Wavelength – 530 nm

Method

Free Chlorine

- 1 Rinse test tube with sample leaving two or three drops in the tube.
- 2 Add one DPD No 1 tablet, crush tablet and then fill the test tube with sample to the 10 ml mark. Mix to dissolve tablet and ensure any remaining particles have settled.
- 3 Take photometer reading immediately as the result may drift on standing. Ensure the display shows the test range that you desire.
- 4 Retain test solution if Total Chlorine test required (see overleaf for further instructions)

Total Chlorine

- 1 Carry out this test on the solution remaining from the Free Chlorine test.
- 2 Add one DPD No 3 tablet, crush and mix to dissolve.
- 3 Stand for two minutes.
- 4 Take photometer reading. Ensure the display shows the test range that you desire.

To obtain COMBINED CHLORINE residual, subtract Free Chlorine result from Total Chlorine result :-
ie Combined Chlorine = Total Chlorine - Free Chlorine

To measure total chlorine only, follow the instructions below :-

Cl₂ 5 = 0.01 – 5 mg/l

- 1 Rinse test tube with sample leaving a few drops of the sample in the tube.
- 2 Add one DPD No 4 tablet, crush tablet and then fill the test tube to the 10 ml mark. Mix to dissolve the tablet.
- 3 Stand for two minutes to allow full colour development.
- 4 Take Chlorometer reading.

Chlorine HR


Cl₂ HR = 1 – 250 mg/l

- 1 Fill test tube with sample to the 10 ml mark.
- 2 Add one Acidifying GP tablet and one Chlorine HR tablet.
- 3 Crush tablets and mix to dissolve. Allow any undissolved particles to settle.
- 4 Take photometer reading.
- 5 Wash test tubes and caps thoroughly after use to prevent cross-contamination between tests.

4 INSTRUMENT

For an illustration of the instrument layout, see Section 1.

Replacing the Batteries

Replace the battery when the  symbol remains on the display. Use 2 x 1.5v alkaline 'AA' batteries, MN 1500, LR6, E91, AM3 or equivalent. Remove batteries from instrument if it is to be stored or left unused for a long period of time.

Liability

Under no circumstances shall Palintest Ltd be liable for loss of life, property, profits or other damages incurred through the use or misuse of their products.

Disposal

Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE).

Natural resources were used in the production of this equipment. This equipment may contain materials that are hazardous to health and the environment.

To avoid harm to the environment and natural resources, the use of appropriate take-back systems is recommended. The crossed out wheeled bin symbol on the meter encourages you to use these systems when disposing of this equipment.

Error Messages

The photometer will display an error message in the unlikely event of malfunction. These error messages are mainly designed to assist service staff in diagnosing instrument faults. In the event of an error message appearing on the photometer display, contact your local Palintest Technical Services Department or your local distributor.

Error messages are coded 7, 8 and 9 and all relate to blanking the instrument. In the first instance, the user should check the operating technique and sample clarity. If these are in order, then these errors indicate a fault in the optics :-

Error 7 indicates too much light – remove the instrument from bright light.

Error 8 indicates a fault with one of the optics components, and requires service assistance.

Error 9 indicates not enough light – follow 'Cleaning the Optics' routine.

If the problem persists, contact your local Palintest Branch or distributor.

Technical Specification

Instrument	Dual wavelength, direct-reading colorimeter
Optics	Palintest Dual LED light source optical system with narrow band wavelength filters and photodetectors
Automatic Wavelength	530nm
Wavelength Tolerance	± 2 nm
Filter Bandwidth	10nm
LCD Display	128 x 64 pixel screen
Instrument Operating Temperature Range	0 – 50°C
Waterproof Rating	IP 67
Test Cells	25 mm diameter tubes
Blank/Zero Setting	Held in memory or reset for each reading
Power Supply	2 x 1.5v 'AA' batteries Auto switch-off setting
Size	150 x 65 x 42 mm
Weight	200g (including batteries)

Cleaning the Optics

Any build-up of dirt or deposits may interrupt light transmission and affect readings.

To clean the optics gently clean the internal surfaces of the optics with a soft, non-abrasive cloth. Do not use solvents. Deposits may be removed with a slightly dampened cotton bud.

The photometer is fitted with long-life light sources and contains no user-serviceable components. If the instrument requires servicing or repair, this can be arranged through our Technical Services Department.

Servicing and Warranty

Palintest Photometers are guaranteed for a period of two years from the date of purchase, excluding accidental damage or damage caused by unauthorised repair or misuse. Should repair be necessary, contact our Technical Services Department quoting the serial number. This guarantee does not affect your statutory rights.

An instrument failure due to test cell contamination is not covered by the Palintest instrument warranty.

5 TROUBLESHOOTING

Chemistry Troubleshooting

It is important to specify Palintest Photometer grade tablets when ordering replacement reagents for this instrument. Using an alternative grade of tablet may lead to a turbid sample which in turn leads to inaccurate results.

Chlorine:

When using the Palintest Chlorometer-Duo, it is vitally important to avoid contamination between the different test reagent systems. To achieve proper differentiation between free and combined chlorine, it is particularly important to avoid the DPD No 1 stage of the test being contaminated with DPD No 3 reagent. Similarly, any traces of the Chlorine HR reagent system in the DPD No 1 test will cause erroneous free chlorine readings.

Always ensure that test tubes, test tube caps and stirring rods are thoroughly washed between tests and when changing from one reagent system to another. Avoid handling the tablets as traces of the reagents on fingers can cause contamination.

Note that a too high chlorine level (>8 mg/l) can cause bleaching of the pink coloration formed in the DPD test and give a false negative or low result. If a colourless or weakly coloured test solution is obtained when chlorine is known to be present, check for the possibility of bleaching by repeating the test on a sample diluted with chlorine-free water.

The high range test (1 – 250 mg/l) uses the Palintest Chlorine HR reagent system. This reagent system measures total chlorine (ie free and combined chlorine). At the levels of chlorine covered in this test it is not normally considered necessary to differentiate between free and combined chlorine. In most applications, chlorine will be predominantly present as free chlorine at high levels.

Very high levels of calcium hardness (>1000 mg/l as CaCO_3) may lead to turbidity when performing the test. If this occurs, you need to add one EDTA tablet (AT 090) to your sample prior to adding your DPD tablet.

Compliance

The DPD method is a published standard method in the UK, the European Community, USA and in many other countries. The Palintest DPD free and total chlorine tests are approved by the USEPA as accepted versions of the Standard Method 4500-C1-G.

The Palintest photometer series has been independently tested and has earned the European CE Mark of Compliance for electro-magnetic compatibility (EMC).

6 REORDER CODES & ACCESSORIES

Reagent Description	Product Code	
	50 Tests	250 Tests
DPD 1 Tablet Pack	PM 011	AP 011
DPD 3 Tablet Pack	PM 031/1	AP 031/1
DPD 4 Tablet Pack	PM 041	AP 041
EDTA Tablets	-	AT 090
Chlorine HR Photometer Tablets	PM 162	AP 162

Accessories Description	Product Code
Test Tube Brush	PT 663
Replacement Photometer Tubes (x5)	PT 555
Photometer Tube Rack	PT 545
Crushing Rods	PT 502