

APPLICATION

CONTRAST CARDS



Evaluation substrate for opacity, colour and hiding power tests.



NK TC4000 Contrast Cards are NK by NEURTEK's reference substrate for the visual and instrumental assessment of the hiding power, opacity, colour and gloss of paints, varnishes, inks and coatings. Their uniform, geometrically controlled surface ensures repeatable results in both visual assessments and measurements using a spectrophotometer or colorimeter.

Available in five versions — black and white (B/W), white, zebra and in two sizes — they are suitable for any type of coating (water-based or solvent-based) and for both manual and automatic application systems. They are compatible with AT3900 holders and with all applicators in the NK by NEURTEK range.

APPLICATION

- **Paint and varnish manufacturers:** quality control of the finished product and batch tracking (hiding power, opacity, colour).
- **Formulation laboratories:** development and validation of new colour bases, pigments and coating systems.
- **Production control:** rapid, routine in-line inspections without the need for expensive substrates.
- **Industrial applicators:** verification of hiding power before and during the application process.
- **Printing inks:** assessment of optical density and opacity of inks on a controlled substrate.
- **Accredited laboratories:** standardised opacity and hiding power tests in accordance with ISO and related standards.

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

- Uniform, controlled surface: a homogeneous substrate that guarantees repeatable results between tests.
- Five versions: B/W, white, zebra, with UV component and enamelled, to meet any testing requirement.
- Two formats available: large (190 × 289 mm) and small (100 × 190 mm).
- Compatible with manual and automatic applicators: Bird, Baker, square, spiral and others.
- Compatible with the NK-AT3900 holder for precise and reproducible manual applications.
- Supplied in packs of 250 (large size) or 300 units (small size).
- Excellent value for money compared to technical panels for routine testing.

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INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

The coating to be assessed is applied to the card using a brush, roller, spatula or applicator (Bird, Baker, spiral, quadrangular). Once dry or cured, the assessment is carried out:

- **Opacity / hiding power:** the coating's ability to conceal the white and black areas of the card is observed. The contrast ratio can be quantified by measuring reflectance using a spectrophotometer or colorimeter (CIE L*a*b*, whiteness index).
- **Hue and colour:** the uniform white or black areas serve as a neutral background for visual comparison or colorimetric measurement.
- **Behaviour under UV light:** versions containing a UV component allow the behaviour of the coating under ultraviolet light to be observed (fluorescence, degradation).
- **Surface resistan:** enamelled versions offer a smoother and more resistant surface, suitable for repetitive or highprecision testing.

TYPES OF CARDS AVAILABLE

- **White/Black (W/B):** half white and half black, for assessing opacity by visual or instrumental contrast. Available in large (190 × 289 mm) and small (100 × 190 mm) formats.
- **White:** completely white surface, for colour and gloss assessments and shade comparison. Available in large (190 × 289 mm) and small (100 × 190 mm) formats.
- **Zebra:** pattern of alternating black and white stripes, for precise visualisation of the coverage boundary along the entire length of the sample. Available in small format (100 × 190 mm).

MODELS

NK TC4000 Contrast Cards

Code	Type	Dimensions	Pcs/Pack	Format
NK-TC4000-BNL	Black / White	190 × 289 mm	250 units	Large
NK-TC4000-BNS	Black / White	100 × 190 mm	300 units	Small
NK-TC4000-NBS	Black/White	100 × 190 mm	300 units	Small
NK-TC4000-BL	White	190 × 289 mm	250 units	Large
NK-TC4000-BS	White	100 × 190 mm	300 units	Small
NK-TC4000-CBS	Zebra	100 × 190 mm	300 units	Small

