

# Photographers' Formulary 10-1189 1LB Overview


**Sodium Carbonate** is commonly available in anhydrous and monohydrous forms. The crystalline form is available as Arm & Hammer Washing Soda, which is sodium carbonate decahydrate (use the yellow, unscented box). This can be safely substituted in almost all formulas calling for carbonate.

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Photographers' Formulary Sodium Carbonate, Anhydrous -

## Photographers' Formulary 10-1189 1LB Specs

Synonyms	Soda Sal soda Soda ash Washing soda Carbonate Carbonate of soda Carbonic acid, disodium salt; disodium carbonate Soda ash
Appearance	White, odorless granular powder that absorbs moisture from the air
Uses	One of the principle alkalis (accelerators) used in development
Chemical Formula	$\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$
Notes	Balanced Alkali (Kodalk) can be used as a substitute for carbonate or vice versa.  <b>Cautions:</b> Sodium carbonate releases a gas when added to an acid stop bath or an acid fixing bath; this gas may cause pinholes, or "blistering," to develop in film emulsions.