

# BRAND UV-Cuvettes

## Comparison with Quartz and other Plastic Cuvettes

BRAND UV-Cuvettes are the disposable alternative to quartz cuvettes for applications that require UV-transparency. Unlike Polystyrene (PS) and Polymethyl methacrylate (PMMA or "acrylic") cuvettes, BRAND UV-Cuvettes are transparent down to 230 nm, so they are suited to molecular biology applications, such as  $A_{260/280}$  purity determinations and other analyses in the UV wavelength range. Besides their UV-transparency, this proprietary plastic is also more resistant to chemical attack than PS or PMMA, and so may bring disposability to applications in which disposable cuvettes were not previously an option because of limited compatibility.

### Benefits of disposability

Disposable cuvettes have many advantages over quartz. Since quartz cuvettes are so expensive, typically costing hundreds of dollars, UV-Cuvettes costing much less than a dollar each are economical. They eliminate the risk of sample carryover, so they can enhance the reliability of analytical results. They eliminate time-wasting washing of cuvettes; taking 5 minutes to wash and dry a cuvette costs more than

the price of a UV-Cuvette, even when the work is done by a student. Furthermore, the one-time use eliminates the risk of scratching or breaking expensive quartz cuvettes. Finally, in molecular biology applications, the availability of individually wrapped UV-Cuvettes, free of DNA, DNase and RNase, provides superior protection for your samples that is not available with reusable quartz cuvettes.

### When should you use quartz cuvettes?

No plastic is as clear as quartz, as indicated in the transmission curves, below. In certain applications—such as an extremely dilute sample where the utmost in sensitivity is essential—quartz may be the only option, and you'll have to sacrifice the advantages of UV-Cuvettes. With typical samples, however, including DNA and RNA, just use the UV-Cuvette as your "blank" or standard, and the spectrophotometer will adjust for the difference in absorbance between quartz and our UV-plastic. With our free sample packs, you can give the BRAND UV-Cuvettes a try at no cost, and confirm for yourself.

Transmission curves of different cuvettes

