Gamsol and Other Solvents, Comparison Chart

SOLVENT TYPE	Turpentine	Mineral Spirits	Odorless Mineral Spirits	**Gamsol Odorless Mineral Spirits**	Solvent Substitute	D-Limonene
TRADE NAME	double rectified English Distilled	Various Hardware Store Brands	Turpenoid, Thin-ex & others	Gamsol	Turpenoid Natural	
BASE	Pine	Petroleum	Petroleum	Petroleum	Not Disclosed	Citrus Peal
EVAPORATION RATE	Fast	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Very Slow	Fast
HARMFUL VAPORS	Yes	Yes	Moderate	Moderate	Not Disclosed	Yes
PEL (Permissible Exposure Level)	100	100-200	200	300	N/A	30
ABSORBED THROUGH HEALTHY SKIN ?	Yes	No	No	No	N/A	Yes
FLASH POINT	90ºF	104ºF	125ºF	145ºF	N/A	116ºF
KB VALUE (Solvent Power)	56	36	28	28	N/A	N/A
USES FOR SOLVENTS						
DILUTING PAINT	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
DISSOLVING ALKYD RESINS	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
DISSOLVING NATURAL RESINS	Yes	Some	No	No	No	Yes
MAKING MEDIUMS	Yes	Yes (for mediums w/o Damar)	Yes (for mediums w/o Damar)	Yes (for mediums w/o Damar)	No	Yes
CLEANUP	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
COMMENTS:	Use with extra caution due to high evaporation	Cheapest form of petroleum	More expensive than mineral	Safest form of OMS, slower evaporation	Not a true solvent because less	EXTREMELY LOW PEL. Regardless of pleasant odor,

	rate and low PEL. Turpentine is absorbed through healthy, unbroken skin.	distillate. Stronger solvent than odorless varieties.	spirit because harmful aromatic solvents have been removed.	rate, and higher PEL.	than half of it evaporates. Only suitable for clean up.	this solvent is suspected of being a liver and kidney toxicant.

N/A = Information not available

Flash Point
The lowest temperature at which a solvent produces vapor in sufficient concentration to create a flammable mixture. Gamsol has a flash point of 145ºF. Turpentine is 90ºF.

KB Value (Kauri-butanol Value)
The Kauri-butanol test measures the solvent power of a hydrocarbon. Gamsol has a low KB Value. It is a weaker solvent than turpentine.

PEL (Permissible Exposure Level)
Measured in parts per million, this OSHA standard rates solvents by how much solvent is safe to work around before the air is considered hazardous. A high PEL also indicates a slower evaporation rate. Turpentine evaporates five times faster than Gamsol AND turpentine has a significantly lower PEL (100 PPM). If the PEL of OMS is only rated 100, consider changing brands.