

# **Autoclaving**

# Thermo Scientific Nalgene plasticware recommended autoclaving cycle is 121°C, 15 psig for 20 minutes

#### For best results use slow exhaust cycle.

We recommend the following autoclave cycle of 121°C, 15 psi for 20 minutes. In order to ensure proper sterilization of internal and external container surfaces, containers should not have a closure or any other obstruction over the container opening. Remove the closure and set it on top the container at an angle, so threads do not engage or remove the closure entirely. Clean and rinse item with distilled water before autoclaving. Certain chemicals will be compatible with resins at room temperature, but could cause deterioration at autoclaving temperatures.

## Avoid these practices when autoclaving plastic products:

- 1. DO NOT stack jars, bottles, and carboys
- ${\bf 2.}~{\rm DO}~{\rm NOT}$  place the product in an autoclaving basket with other objects placed on top
- 3. DO NOT tighten the closure removing closure is better
- **4.** DO NOT place aluminum foil, gauze, cotton, tape or steri-wrap over the opening

The above guidelines are for empty containers. We do not provide any validation information on autoclaving with liquid inside any of our products. The consumer must perform all validation work.

Due to our inability to control all of the variables involved in autoclaving, we do not make any statement on the autoclavable life expectancy of our products.

### AUTOCLAVABLE RESINS INCLUDE:

Polycarbonate\*

Polymethylpentene

Polypropylene

Polypropylene Copolymer

Teflon® FEP

Teflon® PFA

Other methods of sterilization may be appropriate and are resin-specific. Consult the resin reference chart on pages 19-20 for guidance.

\*Sterilizing reduces mechanical strength. Do not use polycarbonate vessels for vacuum applications if they have been autoclaved. Refer to Use and Care Guidelines for Nalgene Labware in the Nalgene Labware Catalog, for detailed information on sterilizing.



