

3M Advanced Materials Division

# 3M™ Calcium Hexaboride Powder -20 mesh

## Introduction

3M™ Calcium Hexaboride Powders are excellent deoxidizing agents for copper refining. Calcium hexaboride ( $\text{CaB}_6$ ) is the only material known that does not reduce electrical conductivity of copper during the deoxidizing process. Oxygen is a disruptive factor in the copper production process. It enters the melt and reacts with the copper to form copper oxide ( $\text{Cu}_2\text{O}$ ). If not removed, it causes porosity in the casting. As a deoxidant, calcium hexaboride removes the detrimental copper oxide.

## Advantages

- No reduction of electrical conductivity
- Ideal for melts using recycled copper
- Only 60 g of  $\text{CaB}_6$  is needed for 100 kg melt
- 3M offers a technology to provide the optimal particle size to meet the required reaction time
- Easy to handle

## Storage

3M calcium hexaboride powder -20 mesh is recommended to be used within 3 years after delivery and should be stored under dry conditions.

## Typical Physical Properties

(Not for specification purposes)

Properties	3M™ Calcium Hexaboride -20 mesh
Chemical Formula	$\text{CaB}_6$
Form	Black powder with metallic luster
Molecular Weight	104.95 g/mol
Crystal Structure	Cubic
Density	2.45 g/cm <sup>3</sup>
Melting Point	2,235°C (4,055°F)

Chemistry	Typical Values
Ca + B	>90%
C	<5%

Grain Size Distribution	Typical Values
Particle size	-20 mesh
$d_5$	> 40 $\mu\text{m}$
$d_{97}$	< 850 $\mu\text{m}$



3M™ Calcium Hexaboride Powder

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The management system has been certified according to DIN EN ISO 9001, DIN EN ISO 50001, DIN EN ISO 14001.



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