

Guidance for Dry Cleaners

All dry cleaners are required to emit no more than 20 grams pf perchlorethylene [solvent] for every kilo of clothing cleaned. The simplest way to show that you comply with this requirement is to use the DEFRA dry cleaning spreadsheet which is available here: <http://www.defra.gov.uk/industrial-emissions/eu-international/solvent-paint-directives/> solvent calculation spreadsheet for dry cleaners [single machine]

The following notes will help you complete the spreadsheet accurately.

1. Keep a record of the weight of clothes washed each day using the weekly tab on the spreadsheet. Do this every time you weigh the clothes to make sure you have an accurate figure.
2. Keep a record of when and how much solvent you add to the machine.
3. At the end of the week, add the totals up for weight of clothes washed and for the solvent used and transfer it to the monthly spreadsheet. Do this each week for the month.
4. At the end of the month, the spreadsheet will automatically add the totals up and will give you a figure for the weight of clothes washed that month **(a)** and the amount of solvent added that month **(c)**.

Site:		Month and year:	
Machine:			
Week ending / Week No.			
Weight of work processed (kg)			Monthly Total Weight (kg)
			a
			0
Solvent used (litres)			Monthly Total (litres)
			c
			0

5. The next section to complete is the estimated still residue for the month in litres:

Estimated still residue for month (litres)	d	
Note: Estimate the amount of residue collected so that a draft solvent usage figure can be obtained. You will need to adjust this figure from time to time so that the total for the year corresponds to your waste collection transfer notes.		

The still residue is the solvent you have collected in the distillation unit which you rake out or pump out and is collected by the waste contractor. You need to add an estimate of the amount of this residue you collect over the month. The most simple way to work this out is to look at your waste collection receipts, work out how much is taken away each year, then divide by 12. This will give you an 'estimate' which you then add to yellow box **(d)**.

6. The next box to fill in is simply a 'x' in the yellow box which relates to your method of cleaning out the still, usually pumped out.
7. The next box simply requires an 'x' in the yellow box next to 'perc'.
8. The spreadsheet will then calculate the solvent emission amount which should be 20g/kg or less and will be shown in blue box 'k'. If the emission amount is higher than 20g/kg or below 0, the form will state 'problem'.

Solvent emitted (should be 20g/kg or less)
g / kg
k
= h ÷ j

9. At this point it is worth checking that you have completed all the boxes accurately. A common mistake is not to record the correct amount of solvent used. It may be that you do not add solvent every week but just once a month, this is acceptable as if correct, it should balance out over the course of the year. You will also need to check the estimated still residue amount. As previously mentioned it is easier to work out the annual amount from your waste records and average it out over 12 months. This can be checked at the end of the year to make sure your estimate was correct. The residue amount cannot be more than the solvent added.
10. If at this stage the result is still 'problem' it could be that you have added more solvent to the machine this month but not actually cleaned many clothes. It is possible therefore that this will 'balance out' when you enter the next month's figures. If this is not the case it suggests that you are losing too much solvent and it will need to be investigated as something is wrong.
11. As you complete the sheet for each month, the figures will automatically transfer onto the annual record. This will give you your annual result which should be less than 20 and you should see YES in the box below the result.

		Annual total of solvent emitted per kg of work processed	
		q	
		= p × 1000 ÷ n	
		(g/kg)	
	Annual result		
	Complies with Regulations?	YES	

12. If you do not get a YES in the box then you have either not completed the form correctly or are non-compliant.
13. You are obliged to send in your monthly records every three months and your annual record at the end of the year.