

PHOTOGRAPHERS' FORMULARY

FORMULARY MODIFIED POTA (DELAGI #8)

Modified POTA is the Delagi #8 formula that was published in the February, 1981 issue of Popular Photography and is offered with the permission of Dick Delagi. Delagi #8 is an excellent developer and it will produce some of the sharpest fine-grain negatives possible.

POTA developers are super compensating. With normal films, a range 20 stops can be recorded, and with Tech-Pan film, a normal contrast range of 7-10 stops can be obtained. Tech-Pan should be exposed somewhere between 32 and 64 ASA. You will have to experiment with your equipment to find the best Exposure Index.

CHEMICAL SAFETY

All chemicals are dangerous and must be treated with respect. None of the chemicals used in Delagi #8 need a special safety discussion. However please read the warning label on each package.

The user assumes all risks upon accepting these chemicals. IF FOR ANY REASON YOU DO NOT WISH TO ASSUME ALL RISKS, PLEASE RETURN THE CHEMICALS WITHIN THIRTY DAYS FOR A FULL REFUND.

MIXING MODIFIED POTA

You will need a 1 liter bottle and 2 temporary containers of about 1 liter in capacity.

Chemical	Amount
Distilled Water (38° C/100° F)	500 ml
Sodium sulfite, anhydrous	25 g
Phenidone	1.4 g
Borax (see note below)	0.8 g
Benzotriazole (0.2% solution)	15 ml
Distilled cold water to make	1000 ml

Note: Your kit also contains 0.8 g of sodium metaborate, which may be substituted for the borax. Some people feel that the sodium metaborate gives superior results.

MIXING THE BENZOTRIAZOLE SOLUTION

Place 500 ml of water (20° C/68° F) in the temporary container. Add the 1-gram of benzotriazole and stir until dissolved.

The formula calls for 15 ml of this solution. The remainder may be kept and used as an anti-fog in other film developers. Simply add 15 ml to a liter of developer.

MIXING THE WORKING SOLUTION

Place the water in the container and add the sodium sulfite. Stir until the solid has dissolved. Add the phenidone and mix well. (Phenidone dissolves slowly; therefore patience will be needed). Add the borax (or sodium metaborate) and stir until dissolved. Measure the 15 ml of benzotriazole solution, add to the container, and stir well. Add cold water to bring the final volume in the container up to 1000 ml. Finally, stir the solution to ensure it is mixed thoroughly before use.

LIFE OF THE SOLUTION

Phenidone is very unstable in solution. The mixed solution of developer has a shelf life of one hour.

USING THE DEVELOPER

Modified POTA is a one-shot developer and must be discarded after use. We recommend a development time of 15 minutes with agitation of 10 seconds each minute

Technical Pan film has a very thin emulsion on a plastic base, necessitating short washing and fixing times. With careful processing the negatives will be permanent.

All solutions should be at 20° C/68° F.