

NETWORK TECHNICAL DATA SHEET

Birdnet and No-Flame Net

Network bird proof netting is destined to be placed on the outside of buildings where it must be: easy to install; effective against the birds; unobtrusive to the casual observer; and must remain unaffected by the weather for many years. Whilst netting can be sourced from a number of places, over the years Network has found that very few can produce netting to the very high quality standards that are required for bird proofing.

All netting supplied by Network is: UV light stabilised for use all over the world; “squared mesh” for easy unobtrusive installation; and made from polyethylene fibres for strength, durability and weather resistance. It is chemically inert, and not affected by a wide temperature range. It is not attacked by insects, bacteria or fungi. Provided the nets are correctly installed and not physically damaged, they have a life expectancy of over 10 years under UK type conditions.

The polyethylene is high density. The monofilaments are extruded to 12/1000” thick. These are then twisted into a twine which is either 6 strands thick (12/6 polyethylene) for Pigeon, Starling and Sparrow **Birdnet** or 9 strands thick (12/9) for Gull **Birdnet**. The twine is then made into knotted netting of appropriate mesh sizes. To prevent knot slippage, the net is heat-treated under tension. To ensure the mesh will be square, the net is then stretched again at 90° to the first tensioning. Finally it is converted from the diamond shape produced by the net-making machine, by joining together strips with invisible joins. This highly skilled job is the critical stage which very few net manufacturers can now provide, but which is essential to produce a square net fit to go onto a building.

Thermal Properties

Softening Point	In the region of 120°C
Effects of High Temperatures	Melting point > 130°C; may be heated for short periods up to 315°C;
Flammability	Birdnet will burn slowly in air. No-Flame net will not propagate a flame and meets BS5867 performance specification (under BS5438 test method)
Effects of Low Temperature	Polyethylene retains its flexibility at freezing temperatures; the wet knot strength of the twine as the temperature rises
Specific Heat	0.47 – 0.50 Cal/°gm

Chemical Properties

Polyethylene is inherently chemically inert and is highly resistant to a wide range of chemicals at normal ambient temperatures. Polyethylene fibres have a high resistance to most acids and alkalis, though they are attacked by nitric acid. They are insoluble in most common organic solvents at room temperature. Polyethylene does not absorb water.

Electrical Properties

Polyethylene is an outstanding electrical insulator, especially to high frequency currents.

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