



**Series 388**

**Outdoor-resistant Product Range of Series 388**

**YOUR ADVANTAGES**

- › For long-term outdoor use
- › Glossy and highly pigmented screen printing ink
- › Made from highly resistant raw materials
- › High flexibility thanks to a mixing system

The outdoor-resistant product range of Series 388 from Printcolor is particularly suitable for long-term outdoor use due to its properties and high-quality components. The glossy and highly pigmented screen printing ink is produced based on highly resistant raw materials. Typical field of application is printing on a variety of plastics, such as stickers, outdoor signs or other technical applications.

**Product range**

The outdoor-resistant product range of Series 388 is a mixing system consisting of fourteen basic colors:

Product	Color	OR	HP	HT
388-1010	MS light yellow	•		•
388-1050	MS pure yellow	•		
388-1100	MS medium yellow	•	•	
388-1150	MS dark yellow	•	•	
388-1300	MS yellow orange	•		•
388-1850	MS pure orange	•		
388-2950	MS pure red	•		
388-3200	MS dark red	•	•	•
388-3300	MS magenta	•	•	•
388-4000	MS violet	•	•	•
388-5000	MS blue	•	•	•
388-6000	MS green	•	•	•
388-8000	MS black	•	•	•
388-9000	MS white	•	•	•

- OR** Outdoor-resistant basic colors for a long-term outdoor use
- HP** Basic mixing system with highly pigmented primary colors.
- HT** Highly transparent mixing colors for high glaze color shades.

The basic colors must be processed in combination with the corresponding binder Series 388-07 (min. 20 % by weight). The colors enable you to reproduce outdoor-resistant and highly brilliant color references and to mix color shades according to your individual requirements. All basic colors are free of listed heavy metals according to DIN EN 71-3:2019. As shown in the product range overview, some of the colors are also highly pigmented or highly transparent.

Further information about the color mixing system and the color series can be found on our website.

**Factors increasing the outdoor resistance**

The outdoor resistance of a screen printing ink is largely dependent on the quality of the components used. To achieve the best possible outdoor durability for longterm applications, Printcolor only uses highly lightfast and highly resistant pigments as well as high-quality binders for Series 388. For a screen printing ink for longterm outdoor use of up to 5 years, only pigments of the wool scale 7 or 8 are used.

Another significant parameter is the application/coating thickness of the ink. Printcolor recommends using a mesh of 77.55 to 120.34, whereby the best results regarding outdoor resistance can be expected with a 77.55 mesh. Furthermore, high quality of material is an essential prerequisite to ensure the best outdoor durability of the ink.

Please note that even when using the highest quality pigments and binders, weathering over the years cannot be ruled out and the outdoor resistance is highly dependent on external conditions such as the geographical location, orientation or general weather conditions.

**Protective varnish and additives**

To increase the mechanical resistance, the use of the protective varnish Series 388-5700 is recommended. The proven use of this varnish combines fast processability with increased abrasion resistance. An addition of 5 to 10 percent hardener is advised to achieve optimum results.

If an increased chemical resistance or an enlarged resistance profile is required, Printcolor recommends the use of the universally applicable 2C protective varnish of Series 675-003.

Where the use of protective varnish is not required, the chemical resistance of Series 388 can be increased by adding 5 to 10 percent hardener. The influence of light regarding weathering is counteracted by adding 3 to 5 percent of the UV absorber Series 10-LSM. Hardener, as well as the UV absorber, can be used with or without a protective varnish.

### Mixing ratio and coloring

With the fourteen outdoor-resistant basic colors of Series 388, color shades can be mixed according to individual requirements. We recommend keeping the number of basic colors used as low as possible to reach optimal results and resistance as well as to ensure reproducibility and minimise other influences such as metamerism effects. Pure color shades with an addition of 20 percent binder of Series 388-07 have the highest outdoor resistance. Mixtures with a high proportion of varnish or white or very low proportions of individual basic colors reduce the outdoor resistance and are not ideal for long-term applications.

When mixing color shades, the basic color with the highest proportion is color-giving. For example, if a green color shade is to be mixed, the green of Series 388-6000 should be used as the basic color, rather than a mixture

of yellow and blue, in order to minimize the number of basic colors.

### Applications

Typical applications of Series 388 are:

- › Car lettering
- › Signs
- › Technical components
- › Automotive applications
- › Labels and stickers
- › Promotional items
- › Displays

### easyMEMO software

With easyMEMO, Printcolor offers you a color formulation tool for the mixing system. The software provides you with the following benefits:

- › Library of color recipes for the most commonly used color series: Pantone, HKS and RAL
- › Option to create customer-specific special color recipes with full administration features, independent of the ink manufacturer
- › Automatic online recipe updates

Visit [www.printcolor.swiss](http://www.printcolor.swiss) for your free easyMEMO download.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

### Technical Data Sheets

[printcolor.ch/tds](http://printcolor.ch/tds)

### Series 388

[printcolor.ch/series388](http://printcolor.ch/series388)

### Color Mixing System 388

[printcolor.ch/mixing-system](http://printcolor.ch/mixing-system)

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