

## Can Amber or Clear Polypropylene Vials be Sterilized - FAQ

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**Sterilization of polypropylene autosampler vials depends on the method used and the temperature involved.**

### Autoclaving (Steam Sterilization)

We do not recommend autoclaving our clear polypropylene autosampler vials ([9502S-PP-Clear](#)) or amber variants. Although polypropylene has a relatively high melting point (~130–171°C), these vials may warp or deform under the high heat and pressure of autoclaving (typically 121°C or higher). This can compromise vial integrity and dimensional accuracy, which is critical for autosampler compatibility.



### Ethylene Oxide (EtO) Sterilization

Yes, ethylene oxide gas is a suitable method for sterilizing polypropylene vials, as long as the temperature does not exceed 120°C. EtO sterilization is a low-temperature process that is widely used for heat-sensitive plastics and is effective at eliminating microbial contamination without damaging the vial structure.

### Summary


#### Sterilization Method Suitable for Polypropylene Vials?

#### Notes

Autoclaving	 Not Recommended	May cause warping or deformation
Ethylene Oxide (EtO)	 Yes, if $\leq 120^{\circ}\text{C}$	Safe and effective for sterilization

### Additional Tips

- Always verify sterilization compatibility with your lab's SOPs and regulatory requirements.
- If sterility is critical, consider pre-sterilized vials or sterile packaging options.
- Avoid dry heat sterilization, which can exceed safe temperature thresholds for polypropylene.

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