Food Grade Inks for Pharmaceutical and Food Applications

Inks used in Continuous Inkjet (CIJ) printers for coding onto pharmaceutical products are subject to stringent regulations set out by either the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) or the European Union (EU). Linx food-grade inks are specifically designed to meet these comprehensive regulations and can be used to code in both food and pharmaceutical applications with confidence and reliability.

For both applications, regulations may vary between countries and regions, so suitability should always be checked locally with regulators prior to use. This ensures compliance with local standards and maintains the highest safety protocols. For a full profile of each ink, including printer compatibility and technical specifications, refer to the 'Summary of the Linx range of dye-based inks' datasheet.

Linx Food Grade Ink Portfolio

Linx offers a comprehensive range of food-grade inks designed to meet both FDA and EU regulatory requirements. Each ink formulation is carefully developed to ensure safety, compliance, and optimal performance across various applications in the food and pharmaceutical industries.

Red Food Grade 6100

FDA-approved formulation for US markets, suitable for edible products, food wrappers, and clinical apparatus.

Blue Food Grade 6120

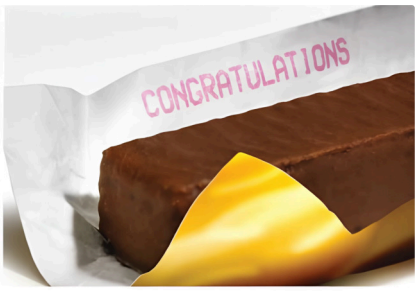
FDA-approved blue ink for US applications, ideal for pharmaceutical and food industry coding requirements.

Blue Food Grade 6220

EU-approved formulation containing only EU-approved food additives and colorants for European markets.

Red Food Grade 6100 (FDA)

Formulated specifically for the food and pharmaceutical industries, Red Food Grade 6100 contains only edible raw materials approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) of the USA. This specialized formulation ensures complete compliance with FDA regulations while delivering exceptional coding performance.



It can be used to code edible products under FDA regulations, including wrappers in contact with food and clinical apparatus. The ink's versatility makes it an ideal choice for manufacturers requiring a reliable, safe, and compliant coding solution across multiple product lines.

- Contains only FDA-approved edible raw materials
- Suitable for direct food contact applications
- Compatible with pharmaceutical coding requirements
- Fast drying time of 1-9 seconds
- Food grade ethanol base

Blue Food Grade Inks: FDA and EU Solutions

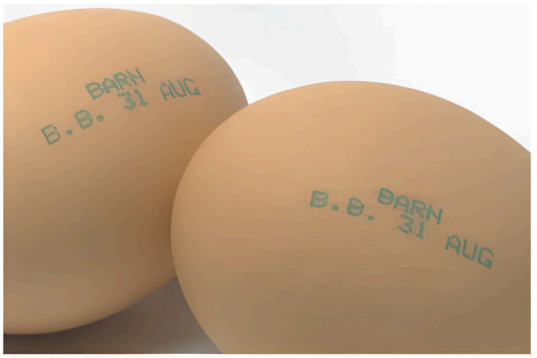
Linx offers two distinct blue food-grade ink formulations to meet the specific regulatory requirements of different global markets. Both inks are engineered to deliver consistent, high-quality coding while maintaining strict compliance with regional food safety standards.

Blue Food Grade 6120 (FDA)

Formulated for the food and pharmaceutical industries in the United States, this ink contains only edible raw materials approved by the FDA. It can be used to code edible products under FDA regulations, including wrappers in contact with food and clinical apparatus. The formulation ensures safety and compliance for pharmaceutical tablets, capsules, and food packaging applications.

Blue Food Grade 6220 (EU)

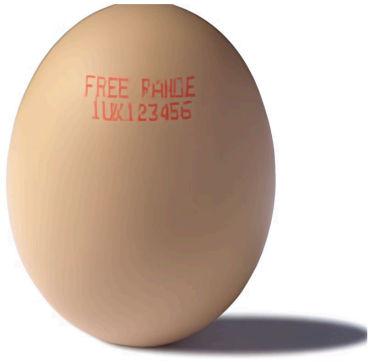
Formulated specifically for the European food industry, this ink contains only EU-approved food additives and colorants. It can be used to code edible products in the EU, including eggs, tablets, food wrappers, and clinical apparatus. The formulation meets stringent European regulations while providing excellent adhesion and readability on various substrates.



Technical Specifications and Performance

All Linx food-grade inks are engineered with food-grade ethanol as the base solvent, ensuring safety and compliance across applications. The inks feature rapid drying times and are paired with recommended Linx solvents for optimal performance and longevity.

Ink Type	Ink/Solvent Base	Drying Time	Recommended Solvent
Red Food Grade 6100 (FDA)	Food grade ethanol	1-9 seconds	6600
Blue Food Grade 6120 (FDA)	Food grade ethanol	1-9 seconds	6650
Blue Food Grade 6220 (EU)	Food grade ethanol	1-9 seconds	6650



The fast drying time of 1-9 seconds ensures efficient production line speeds while maintaining excellent print quality and adhesion. Each ink is paired with a specific recommended Linx solvent to ensure optimal viscosity, print quality, and system performance throughout the product lifecycle.

Manufacturing Quality Standards

Linx food-grade fluids are manufactured in dedicated food-grade facilities under the most stringent quality control protocols. These specialized facilities are designed exclusively for food-grade production, eliminating any risk of cross-contamination with non-food-grade substances. Every aspect of the manufacturing process is carefully monitored and controlled to ensure the highest standards of purity and safety.

The inks are bottled under very carefully controlled conditions to avoid any risk of contamination with non-food-grade substances. This includes dedicated bottling lines, cleanroom environments, and rigorous testing protocols at every stage of production. All Linx CIJ printers manufactured for use with food-grade ink are manufactured and tested in dedicated facilities, ensuring complete system integrity from ink formulation through to final application.

01

Dedicated Facilities

Manufacturing in specialized food-grade only facilities

02

Controlled Bottling

Bottling under carefully controlled contamination-free conditions

03

Quality Testing

Rigorous testing protocols at every production stage

04

System Integration

Dedicated printer manufacturing and testing facilities

Storage and Operating Requirements

Proper storage and operating conditions are essential to maintain the quality, performance, and compliance of Linx food-grade inks. Following these guidelines ensures optimal ink performance and extends the shelf life of the products.

Storage Temperature

Store all Linx food-grade inks between +15°C and +25°C in a controlled environment away from direct sunlight and heat sources.

FDA Ink Operating Range

Linx FDA food-grade inks (6100 and 6120) operate effectively between 0°C and +40°C, providing flexibility for various production environments.

EU Ink Operating Range

Linx EU food-grade ink (6220) operates between 5°C and +35°C, optimized for European production facility conditions.

Important: Always verify local regulatory requirements before use. Operating conditions may vary based on specific application requirements and local environmental factors. Consult us for application-specific guidance.

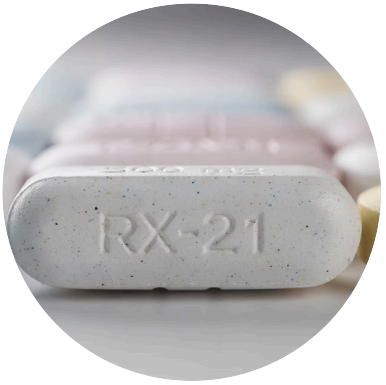
Versatile Applications Across Industries

Linx food-grade inks deliver exceptional versatility across a wide range of applications in both food and pharmaceutical industries. From delicate egg shells to pharmaceutical tablets, from chocolate wrappers to clinical apparatus, these inks provide reliable, compliant coding solutions that meet the most demanding industry standards.

The comprehensive range of applications demonstrates the adaptability and reliability of Linx food-grade inks. Whether coding best-before dates on eggs, printing dosage information on pharmaceutical tablets, or marking expiration dates on food packaging, these inks deliver consistent, high-quality results that maintain readability throughout the product lifecycle.

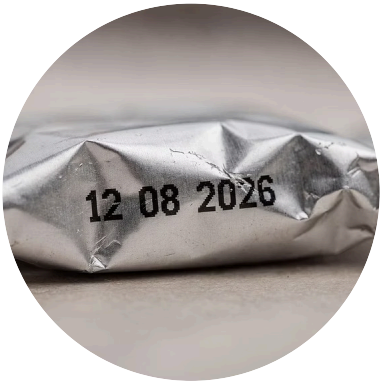
Egg Coding

Direct printing on egg shells with excellent adhesion and food safety compliance



Pharmaceutical Tablets

Precise coding on tablets and capsules meeting FDA and EU regulations



Food Packaging

Clear, durable printing on wrappers and packaging materials in contact with food

For advice on individual applications and to ensure optimal ink selection for your specific requirements, please consult Linx or your local Linx Distributor. Our technical experts can provide guidance on printer compatibility, substrate suitability, and regulatory compliance for your unique application needs.