

# Humidity Specifications

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- Humidity
  - Integrated circuits typically are not perfectly hermitically sealed.
  - In high humidity conditions, water vapor can enter the package and cause corrosion → failure over time
  - One solution is to bake the parts prior to usage
    - This forces the water vapor out of the part
    - Parts are characterized by their Moisture Sensitivity Level (MSL)
      - The time a part can be outside a 'dry' storage environment before it must be baked to remove excess water vapor

**MSL 6** – Mandatory bake before use

**MSL 5A** – 24 hours

**MSL 5** – 48 hours

**MSL 4** – 72 hours

**MSL 3** – 168 hours

**MSL 2A** – 4 weeks

**MSL 2** – 1 year

**MSL 1** – Unlimited floor life