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825,478 DRY PROCESSED PHOTOGRAPHIC MATERIALS CONTAINING PREPROCESSING STABILIZERS

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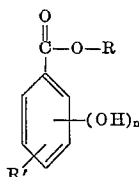
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The presence of a hydroxybenzoic acid compound in heat processed photographic materials improves the pre-processing stability. Such hydroxybenzoic acid compounds can be described by the formula:



wherein R is hydrogen, alkyl, especially alkyl containing 1 to 5 carbon atoms such as methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl and pentyl or alkali and alkaline earth metals such as lithium, sodium, potassium, calcium, strontium and barium; R' is hydrogen, alkyl, especially alkyl containing 1 to 5 carbon atoms such as methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl and pentyl or alkoxy, especially alkoxy groups containing 1 to 5 carbon atoms such as methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, butoxy and pentyloxy; and n is 1, 2 or 3. Typical examples of such compounds include gallic acid, 2,4,6-trihydroxybenzoic acid, gentisic acid, methyl gallate, propyl gallate, and the like.

The hydroxybenzoic acids are effective as pre-processing stabilizers in materials for dry processing which comprise a photographic silver salt and a silver salt stabilizer precursor. In addition, the heat processed photographic materials can contain activator precursors and incorporated developing agents.