Viscosity Help Chart

Generally speaking, viscosity refers to the thickness of a fluid. At a molecular level, viscosity is a result of the interaction between any different molecules in a fluid and can be also understood as friction between the molecules in the fluid. Viscosity has the ability to determine the energy required to make a fluid flow.

This help chart will outline a number of well known materials and their approximate viscosity, allowing them to be measured more efficiently.

Viscosity: A measure of the resistance of a fluid to flow (usually through a specific orifice).
Thixotropic: Describes materials that are gel-like at rest but fluid when agitated.
Centipoise: Water is the standard at 1 cps.

Material	Approximate Viscosity (cps)
Water at 70 F	1 to 5
Blood or Heating Oil	10
Anti-Freeze or Coolant	15
Motor Oil SAE10 or Vegetable Oil	50 to 100
Motor Oil SAE30 or Maple Syrup	150 to 200
Motor Oil SAE40 or Castor Oil	250 to 500
Motor Oil SAE60 or Glycerin	1,000 to 2,000
Golden Syrup or Honey	2,000 to 3,000
Black Treacle	5,000 to 10,000
Chocolate Syrup	10,000 to 25,000
Ketchup or Mustard	50,000 to 70,000
Tomato Puree or Peanut Butter	150,000 to 250,000
Vegetable Butter or Lard	1,000,000 to 2,000,000
Caulking Compound	5,000,000 to 10,000,000
Window Putty	100,000,000