Are O-Rings color-coded?
Across the industry, O-rings are not color-coded, but a customer can easily color-code their own inventory. O-rings are produced in a wide spectrum of colors to distinguish one material from another, to improve visibility, or simply to look better in exposed applications. With PTFE coating, we can offer more than 20 distinct color options.

Does fluorocarbon come in colors other than brown?
Absolutely. The most common color is black, but brown, green, and rust are also available. Keep in mind that changing from a black material to a colored one can reduce the material’s compression set resistance and/or physical properties.

If this o-ring is black, does that mean it’s nitrile?
Absolutely not. A black O-ring could be practically anything.

Can I get this o-ring in a different color?
We can apply a colored PTFE coating to the outside surface of the O-ring, but changing the color throughout the seal material generally requires developing a totally new compound. Unfortunately, this is considerably more involved than simply changing a pigment.

What do the colored dots on my o-ring mean?
If you receive O-rings with colored dots on them, whatever you do, don’t open the bag! No, seriously, we apply colored dots for identification purposes at customer request. If you have several identical or similar sized O-rings that could get mixed up, we can apply non-permanent colored dots to the surface of the O-ring so that you can color-code your inventory. If you have O-rings with colored dots on them, more than likely, someone in your organization asked for them.

In addition, some aerospace specifications require specific color coded dots. NAS 1613 Rev 2 requires 1 white stripe and 2 yellow permanent dots on the surface of E0515-80. Competitor’s compounds have different color codes. NAS 1613 Rev 4 and 5 require 1 white stripe and 1 white dot, but these markings do not have to be permanent.

What is ChromAssure?
ChromAssure was a method of color coding of O-rings that Parker developed and recommended for customer use. We developed one compound with a unique color in each polymer family, so that the O-ring has polymer could be identified visually. For example, compound E0893-80 (EPDM) is a purple color, while C0944-70 (Neoprene) is a fire-engine red.

These uniquely-colored ChromAssure O-ring compounds are still available for customers who would like to color-code their O-ring inventory.