

ABSTRACT

The present invention provides a thermochromic color-memory toner having a function that an image formed on a copied matter can be maintained in either in a colored state or a decolored state.

A thermochromic color-memory toner containing: at least a microcapsule pigment encapsulating a thermochromic color-memory composition; and a binder resin, in which the microcapsule pigment shows a hysteresis characteristic that, in a temperature-rise process where the pigment is in a colored state, decoloration starts when the temperature reaches temperature t_3 and the pigment completely reaches a decolored state in a temperature region of equal to or higher than temperature t_4 which is higher than temperature t_3 , and, in a temperature-drop process, coloration starts when the temperature reaches temperature t_2 which is lower than temperature t_3 and the pigment completely reaches a colored state in a temperature region of equal to or lower than temperature t_1 which is lower than temperature t_2 , with either the colored state or the decolored state being selectively observed visually in a temperature region between temperature t_2 and temperature t_3 , and the temperature t_1 is in a range of from -50 to 0°C and the temperature t_4 is in a range of from 50 to 150°C ; a cartridge including the toner housed therein; an image formation apparatus; a cartridge set; and an image formation apparatus set.