

TONER FOR DEVELOPING ELECTROSTATIC IMAGE, APPARATUS UNIT AND
IMAGE FORMING METHOD

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A toner for developing electrostatic images is constituted as a powdery mixture of toner particles, inorganic fine powder, resin fine particles, and metal oxide particles. The toner has a weight-average particle size of 4 - 12 μm and contains at most 30 % by number of particles having a particle size of at most 3.17 μm . The inorganic fine powder has an average primary particle size of 1 - 50 nm.

10 The resin fine particles have an average particle size of 0.1 - 2 μm and a shape factor SF1 of at least 100 and below 150. The metal oxide particles have an average particle size of 0.3 - 3 μm and a shape factor SF1 of 150 - 250. The toner is effective for

15 preventing toner sticking onto and ununiform abrasion of the electrostatic image-bearing member to allow the formation of high-quality images for a long life.

Figure 1

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