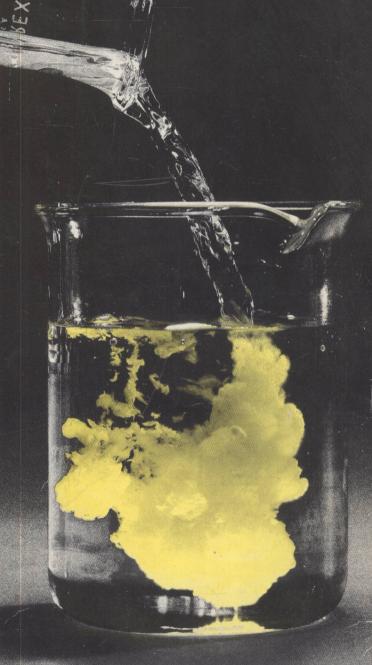
Addison-Wesley

Chemistry

Laboratory Manual



Consumable Edition

Safety Symbols

Take appropriate precautions whenever any of these safety symbols appears next to the instructions in a procedure.



Eye Hazard

• Wear safety goggles.



Corrosive Substance Hazard

- Wear safety goggles and laboratory apron.
- · Do not touch chemicals.



Fire Hazard

- Tie back hair and loose clothing.
- Do not use a burner near flammable materials.



Poison Hazard

- Do not chew gum, drink, or eat in the laboratory.
- Keep your hands away from your face.



Inhalation Hazard

Avoid inhaling this substance.



Thermal Burn Hazard

Do not touch hot equipment.



Breakage Hazard

- Do not use chipped or cracked glassware.
- Do not heat the bottom of a test tube.



Disposal Hazard

• Dispose of this chemical only as directed.

Emergency Procedures

Report any injury, accident, or spill to your teacher immediately. Know the location of the closest eye wash, fountain, fire blanket, fire extinguisher, and shower.

| Situation | Safe Response |
|----------------|---|
| Burns | Immediately flush with cold water until the burning sensation subsides. |
| Fainting | Provide fresh air (for instance, open a window). Move the person so that the head is lower than the rest of the body. If breathing stops, use artificial resuscitation. |
| Fire | Turn off all gas outlets. Unplug all appliances. Use a fire blanket or fire extinguisher to smother the fire. Caution: Do not cut off a person's air supply. |
| Eye Injury | Immediately flush the eye with running water. Remove contact lenses. Do not allow the eye to be rubbed if a foreign object is present in the eye. |
| Minor Cuts | Allow to bleed briefly. Wash with soap and water. |
| Poisoning | Note what substance was responsible. Alert teacher immediately. |
| Spills on skin | Flush with water. |

Addison-Wesley Chemistry

Laboratory Manual

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Safety Consultant

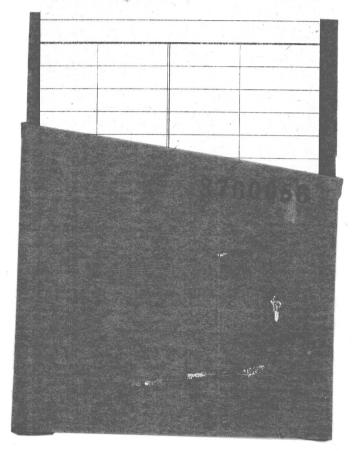
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Cover Photo: A yellow precipitate of cadmium sulfide, CdS, forms spontaneously when clear aqueous solutions of sodium sulfide, Na₂S, and cadmium nitrate, Cd(NO₃)₂, are mixed. **Caution:** Sodium sulfide is an irritant. Avoid skin or eye contact with this and all other chemicals.

Photo taken expressly for Addison-Wesley by Stephen Frisch.

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To the Student

Chemistry is exciting! Each day in the laboratory you are given the opportunity to confront the unknown, and to understand it. Each experiment holds many secrets. Look hard and you may see them. Work hard and you can solve them.

The word "science" comes from the Latin word *scire* which means "to know". The goal of all science is knowledge. Scientists are men and

women who devote their lives to the pursuit of knowledge.

In this class, you are given the opportunity to do what scientists do. You can wonder how things work, ask why and how, and then think of ways to answer your own questions. You are given the chance to understand what is unknown to you and to many other people.

It is a great opportunity. Do not waste it by being lazy or careless. Work hard. Master the scientist's skills of observation and experiment.

These skills are tools to solve the secrets of the unknown.

Preparation and Safety

To get the most out of your laboratory experience, you must be well-prepared for each experiment. This means that you must read the experiment thoroughly before coming to the laboratory. Make sure you have a clear idea of what the experiment is about. Be sure that you understand each step of the procedure. If you are unsure of any part of the experiment, ask your teacher for help before the laboratory begins.

Preparation is important not only to understanding, but also to safety. If you are well-prepared for the laboratory, it is much less likely that an accident will occur. In the laboratory, you are responsible not only for your safety, but also for the safety of your classmates. If an accident happens because you are not prepared, it can also affect your friends. This is all the more reason for you to take the time and make the effort

to prepare for the laboratory.

Be sure to note the safety warnings listed in the safety section of each experiment. Note that these warnings are emphasized by symbols appearing in the margins. The symbols mark those parts of the procedure that may be hazardous. In addition, be sure to observe the general safety precautions described in the safety section at the beginning of the manual. Finally, remember the most important safety advice of all: Always wear safety goggles in the chemistry laboratory!



Safety in the Chemistry Laboratory

Everyone who works in a chemistry laboratory should follow these safety precautions.

- 1. Wear safety goggles and a laboratory apron in the laboratory at all times.
- 2. Shoes must be worn in the laboratory. Avoid wearing overly bulky or loose fitting clothing. Remove any dangling jewelry.
- 3. Conduct only assigned experiments, and do them only when your teacher is present.
- 4. Know the locations of safety equipment such as eyewash fountains, fire extinguishers, emergency shower, and fire blanket. Be sure you know how to use the equipment.
- 5. Do not chew gum, eat, or drink in the laboratory. Never taste any chemicals. Keep your hands away from your face when working with chemicals.
- 6. Wash your hands with soap and water at the end of each laboratory exercise.
- 7. Read all of the directions for a laboratory procedure before proceeding with the first part. Reread each instruction before you do it.
- 8. Notify your teacher immediately if any chemicals, such as concentrated acid or base, are spilled.
- 9. Report all accidents, no matter how slight, to the teacher immediately.
- 10. Pin or tie back long hair and roll up loose sleeves when working with flames.
- 11. Do not leave a lighted burner unattended.
- 12. Use a hot plate instead of an open flame whenever a flammable liquid is present.
- 13. Read the label on a reagent bottle carefully *before* using the chemical. After removing the chemical from the bottle, check to make sure that it is the correct chemical for that procedure.
- 14. To avoid contamination, do not return unused chemicals to a reagent bottle. Similarly, never put a pipet, spatula, or dropper into a reagent bottle. Instead, pour some of the reagent into a small clean beaker and use that as your supply.
- 15. Do not use chipped or cracked glassware. Discard it according to your teacher's instructions.
- 16. When diluting an acid, always pour the acid slowly into water with stirring to dissipate the heat generated. **CAUTION:** Never pour water into a concentrated acid.
- 17. When heating a liquid in a test tube, turn the mouth of the test tube away from yourself and others.
- 18. Clean up spills and broken glass immediately. Leave your work area clean at the end of the laboratory period.

Laboratory Hazards

You should be aware of possible hazards in the laboratory and take the appropriate safety precautions. By doing so, the risks of doing chemistry can be minimized. This safety section is intended to acquaint you with the hazards that exist in the laboratory and to indicate how you can avoid these hazards. In addition, information is provided on what to do if an accident should occur.

Thermal Burns

A thermal burn can occur if you touch hot equipment or come too close to an open flame. You can prevent thermal burns by being aware that hot and cold equipment look the same. If a gas burner or hot plate has been used, some of the equipment nearby may be hot. Hold your hand near an item to feel for heat before touching it. Treat a thermal burn by *immediately* applying cold running water to the burned area. Continue applying the cold water until the pain is reduced. This usually takes several minutes. In addition to reducing pain, cooling the burned area also serves to speed the healing process. Greases and oils should not be used to treat burns because they tend to trap heat. Medical assistance should be sought for any serious burn. Notify your teacher immediately if you are burned.

Chemical Burns

A chemical burn occurs when the skin or a mucous membrane is damaged by contact with a substance. The Materials section of each exercise indicates which substances can cause chemical burns. stands for corrosive. It indicates that the chemical can cause severe burns. stands for irritant. It indicates that the chemical can irritate the skin and the membranes of the eye, nose, throat, and lungs. Chemicals that are marked corrosive. Should be treated with special care. Chemical burns can be severe. Permanent damage to mucous membranes can occur despite the best efforts to rinse a chemical from the affected area.

The best defense against chemical burns is prevention. Without exception, wear safety goggles during all phases of the laboratory period—even during clean-up. Should any chemical splash in your eye, immediately use a continuous flow of running water to flush your eye for a period of 20 minutes. Call for help. If you wear contact lenses, remove them immediately. This is especially crucial if the chemical involved is an acid or base. It can concentrate under the lens and cause extensive damage. Wear a laboratory apron and close-toed shoes (no sandals) to protect other areas of your body. If corrosive chemicals should contact your exposed skin, wash the affected area with water for several minutes.

An additional burn hazard exists when concentrated acids or bases are mixed with water. The heat released in mixing these chemicals with water can cause the mixture to boil, spattering corrosive chemical. The heat can also cause nonpyrex containers to break, spilling corrosive chemical.

To avoid these hazards, follow these instructions: Always add acid or base to water, very slowly and with stirring, never the reverse. One way to remember this critical advice is to think of the phrase, "pouring acid into water is doing what you ought-er".





Cuts from Glass

Cuts occur most often when thermometers or pieces of glass tubing are forced into rubber stoppers. Prevent cuts by using the correct technique for this procedure. The hole should be lubricated with glycerol or water to facilitate the movement of the glass tubing. The glass should not be gripped directly with the hands, but rather, by means of paper towels. The towels will protect your hands if the glass should break. Use a gentle twisting motion to move the tube smoothly into the stopper.

Avoid cuts from other sources by discarding chipped and cracked glassware according to your teacher's instructions. If you should receive a minor cut, allow it to bleed for a short time. Wash the injured area under cold running water, and notify your teacher. Serious cuts and deep puncture wounds require immediate medical help. Notify your teacher immediately. While waiting for assistance, control the bleeding by applying pressure with the finger tips or by firmly pressing with a clean towel or gauze.

Fire

A fire may occur if chemicals are mixed improperly or if flammable materials come too close to a burner flame or hot plate. When using this equipment, prevent fires by tying back long hair and loose fitting clothing. Do not use a burner when flammable chemicals are present. These chemicals are designated with the symbol [F] in the materials section for each exercise. Use a hot plate as a heat source instead of a burner when flammable chemicals are present.

If hair or clothing should catch fire, DO NOT run, because running fans a fire. Drop to the floor and roll slowly to smother the flames. Shout for help. If another person is the victim, get a fire blanket to smother the flames. If a shower is nearby, help the victim to use it.

In case of a fire on a laboratory bench, turn off all accessible gas outlets and unplug all accessible appliances. A fire in a container may be put out by covering the container with a nonflammable object. It could also be smothered by covering the burning object with a damp cloth. If not, call for a fire extinguisher. Spray the base of the fire with foam from the extinguisher. Caution: Never direct the jet of a fire extinguisher into a person's face. Use a fire blanket instead. If a fire is not extinguished quickly, leave the laboratory. Crawl to the door if necessary to avoid the smoke. Do not return to the laboratory.

Poisoning

Many of the chemicals used in the experiments in this manual are toxic. Such chemicals are identified in the materials sections with the symbol \boxed{T} .

You should do several things to prevent poisoning. Never eat, chew gum or drink in the laboratory. Do not touch chemicals. Clean up spills. Keep your hands away from your face. In this way you will prevent chemicals from reaching your hands, mouth, nose or eyes.

In some cases, the detection of an odor is used to indicate that a chemical reaction has taken place. It is important to note, however, that many gases are toxic when inhaled. If you must detect an odor, use your hand to waft some of the gas toward your nose. Sniff the gas instead of taking a deep breath. This will minimize the amount of gas sampled.

Safety Symbols

Take appropriate precautions whenever any of these safety symbols appears next to the instructions in a procedure.



Eye Hazard

· Wear safety goggles.



Inhalation Hazard

Avoid inhaling this substance.



Corrosive Substance Hazard

- Wear safety goggles and laboratory apron.
- · Do not touch chemicals.



Fire Hazard

- Tie back hair and loose clothing.
- Do not use a burner near flammable materials.



Poison Hazard

- Do not chew gum, drink, or eat in the laboratory.
- Keep your hands away from your face.



Thermal Burn Hazard

• Do not touch hot equipment.



Breakage Hazard

- Do not use chipped or cracked glassware.
- Do not heat the bottom of a test tube.



Disposal Hazard

 Dispose of this chemical only as directed.

Emergency Procedures

Report any injury, accident, or spill to your teacher immediately. Know the location of the closest eye wash, fountain, fire blanket, fire extinguisher, and shower.

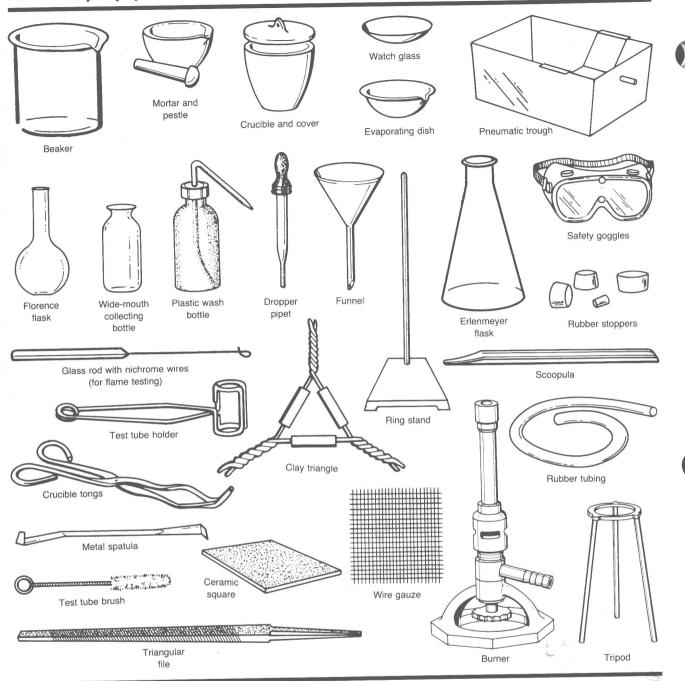
| Situation | Safe Response | |
|----------------|---|--|
| Burns | Immediately flush with cold water until the burning sensation subsides. | |
| Fainting | Provide fresh air (for instance, open a window). Move the person so that the head is lower than the rest of the body. If breathing stops, use artificial resuscitation. | |
| Fire | Turn off all gas outlets. Unplug all appliances. Use a fire blanket or fire extinguisher to smother the fire. Caution: Do not cut off a person's air supply. | |
| Eye Injury | Immediately flush the eye with running water. Remove contact lenses. Do not allow the eye to be rubbed if a foreign object is present in the eye. | |
| Minor Cuts | Allow to bleed briefly. Wash with soap and water. | |
| Poisoning | Note what substance was responsible. Alert teacher immediately. | |
| Spills on skin | Flush with water. | |

Student Equipment

At the beginning and end of the year, record how many of each item are in your equipment drawer.

| Item | Quantity Checked In | Quantity Checked Out | Breakage |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|----------|
| beaker, 100-mL | | | |
| beaker, 250-mL | | | |
| beaker, 400-mL | | 2 | |
| ceramic plate | | | e |
| crucible, with cover | | | y |
| crucible tongs | | | |
| dropper pipet (eye dropper) | | | |
| evaporating dish | | | |
| flask, Erlenmeyer, 125-mL | | | |
| flask, Erlenmeyer, 250-mL | | | |
| forceps | | | |
| funnel | | | |
| graduated cylinder, 10-mL | 8 - 6 | | |
| graduated cylinder, 25-mL | | | |
| graduated cylinder, 100-mL | , | | |
| laboratory apron | | | |
| mortar and pestle | | | F . |
| safety goggles | | | |
| screw clamp or pinch clamp | | | |
| spatula, scoopula | | | |
| stirring rod and policeman | | | |
| test tube, 13 × 100 mm (small) | | | |
| test tube, 20 × 150 mm (medium) | | | |
| test tube holder | | | |
| thermometer (-10°C to 110°C) | | | 8 |
| triangle | | | |
| watch glass | | | |
| wire gauze | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

Laboratory Equipment



Beaker: glass or plastic; common sizes are 50-mL, 100-mL, 250-mL, 400-mL; glass beakers may be heated.

Buret: glass; common sizes are 25-mL, and 50-mL; used to measure volumes of solutions in titrations.

Ceramic square: used under hot apparatus or glassware.

Clamps: the following types of clamps may be fastened to support apparatus: buret/test-tube clamp, clamp holder, double buret clamp, ring clamp, 3-pronged jaw clamp.

Clay triangle: wire frame with porcelain supports, used to support a crucible.

Condenser: glass; used in distillation procedures.

Crucible and cover: porcelain, used to heat small amounts of solid substances at high temperatures.

Crucible tongs: iron or nickel, used to pick up and hold small items.

Dropper pipet: glass tip with rubber bulb, used to transfer small volumes of liquid.

Erlenmeyer flask: glass, common sizes are 100-mL, 250-mL; may be heated, used in titrations.

Evaporating dish: porcelain, used to contain small volumes of liquid being evaporated.

Florence flask: glass, common sizes are 125-mL, 250-mL, 500-mL, may be heated, used in making and for storing solutions.

Forceps: metal, used to hold or pick up small objects.

Funnel: glass or plastic, common size holds 12.5-cm diameter filter paper.

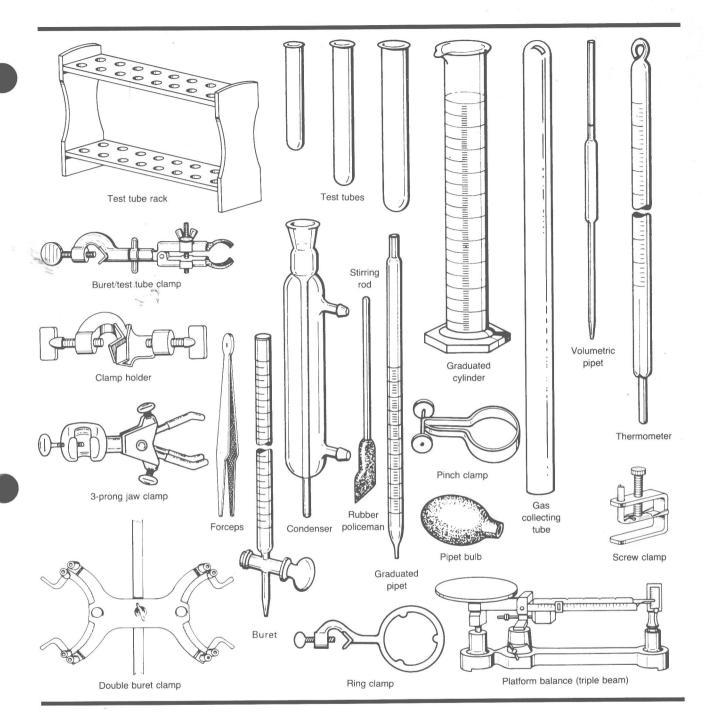
Gas burner: connected metal; to a gas supply with rubber tubing; used to heat chemicals (dry or in solution) in beakers, test tubes, and crucibles

Gas collecting tube: glass, marked in mL intervals; used to measure gas volumes.

Glass rod with nichrome wire: used in flame tests.

Graduated cylinder: glass or plastic, common sizes are 10-mL, 50-mL, 100-mL, used to measure approximate volumes; must not be heated.

Graduated pipet: glass, common sizes are 10-mL, 25-mL; used to measure solution volumes; less accurate than a volumetric pipet.



Mortar and pestle: porcelain, may be used to grind crystals and lumpy chemicals to a powder.

Pipet bulb: rubber, used in filling a pipet with a solution, a pipet must never be filled by mouth.

Plastic wash bottle: flexible plastic, squeeze sides to dispense water.

Platform balance: also known as a triple beam balance.

Pneumatic trough: galvanized container with shelf, used in experiments where a gas is collected.

Ringstand: metal rod fixed upright in a heavy metal base; has many uses as a support.

Rubber stoppers: several sizes.

Rubber tubing: used to connect apparatus so as to transfer liquids or gases.

Safety goggles: plastic; must be worn at all times while working in the laboratory.

Screw clamp, pinch clamp: metal, used to block off rubber tubbing. Spatula, scoopula: metal or porcelain; used to transfer solid chemicals; the scoopula has a larger capacity.

Stirring rod and rubber policeman: glass with rubber sleeve; used to stir, assist in pouring liquids, and for removing precipitates from a container.

Test tube brush: bristles with wire handle, used to scrub small diameter glassware.

Test tube holder: spring metal, used to hold test tubes or glass tubing.
Test tube rack: wood or plastic, holds test tubes in a vertical position.
Test tubes: glass, common sizes small (13 mm x 100 mm), medium

(20 mm x 150 mm), large (25 mm x 200 mm), may be heated. **Thermometer:** mercury in glass, common range -10° C to 110° C. **Triangular file:** metal, used to scratch glass tubing prior to breaking

to desired length.

Tripod: iron, used to support containers of chemicals above the flame

of a burner.

Volumetric pipet: glass, common sizes are 10-mL, 25-mL, used to

measure solution volumes accurately, must not be heated.

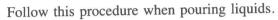
Watch glass: glass, used to cover an evaporating dish or beaker.

Wide-mouth bottle: glass, used with pneumatic trough. Wire gauze: used to spread the heat of a burner flame.

Safe Laboratory Techniques

Pouring Liquids

- · Always read the label on a reagent bottle before using its contents.
- · Always wear safety goggles when handling chemicals.
- Never touch chemicals with your hands.
- Never return unused chemicals to their original containers. To avoid waste, do not take excessive amounts of reagents.



- 1. Use the back of your fingers to remove the stopper from a reagent bottle. Hold the stopper between your fingers until the transfer of liquid is complete. Do not place the stopper on your workbench.
- 2. Grasp the container from which you are pouring with the palm of your hand covering the label.
- 3a. When you are transferring a liquid to a test tube or measuring cylinder, the container should be held at eye level. Pour the liquid slowly until the correct volume has been transferred.
- 3b. When you are pouring a liquid from a reagent bottle into a beaker, the reagent should be poured slowly down a glass stirring rod (Figure 1). When you are transferring a liquid from one beaker to another, you can hold the stirring rod and beaker in one hand.

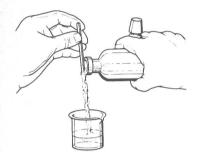
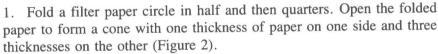
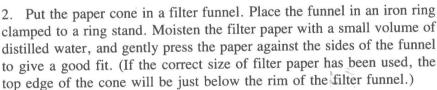


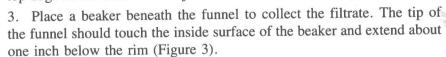
Figure 1. Pouring from a reagent bottle into a beaker.

Filtering a Mixture

Sometimes it is necessary to separate a solid (for example, a precipitate) from a liquid. The most common method of separating such a mixture is filtration.







- 4. Decant the liquid from the solid (precipitate) by pouring it down a glass stirring rod into the funnel. Be careful to keep the liquid below the top edge of the cone of filter paper at all times; the liquid must not overflow. Finally, use a jet of distilled water from a wash bottle to wash the solid (precipitate) into the filter.
- 5. When the filtration is complete, wash the solid residue on the filter paper with distilled water to remove traces of solvent. Dry the solid.
- 6. If the filtrate contains a dissolved salt it may be recovered by evaporation if desired.

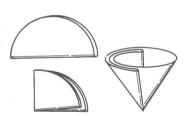


Figure 2. Folding the filter paper.

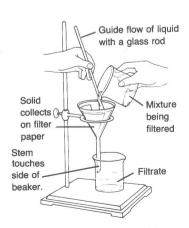


Figure 3. Filtration assembly.

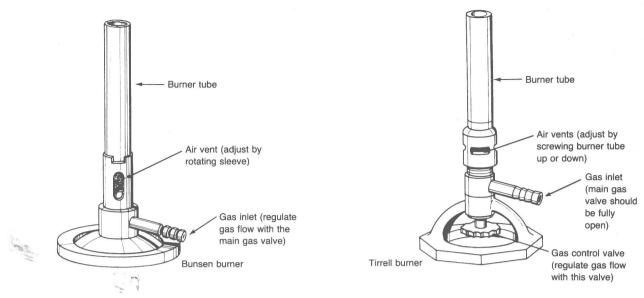
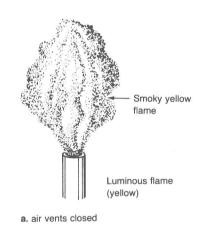


Figure 4. Laboratory gas burners.



Outer cone

Hottest part of flame

Inner cone

Non-luminous flame (light blue)

Figure 5. Burner flame characteristics.

b. air vents open

Using a Gas Burner

Laboratory gas burners produce various kinds of flames when different mixtures of gas and air are burned. The two most common models are the Bunsen burner and the Tirrell burner. Both have adjustable air vents; the Tirrell burner also has a gas control valve in its base (Figure 4).

- 1. Examine your laboratory burner. Determine which model you have.
- 2. Connect the burner to the gas supply with rubber tubing.
- 3. Close the air vents. If your model is a Tirrell burner also close the gas control valve at the base of the burner.
- 4. Hold a lighted match at the top of the burner tube and turn on the gas supply. You should get a yellow or luminous flame (Figure 5). When a Tirrell burner is used, the main gas supply valve should be opened fully and the gas flow regulated by the gas control valve at the base of the burner. Gas supply to a Bunsen burner is controlled by the main gas valve.
- 5. Open the air vents slowly, to admit more air into the flame, to produce a light blue (nonluminous) cone-shaped flame. If the flame "blows out" after lighting, the gas supply should be reduced.
- 6. Adjust the air vents and gas supply to produce the desired size of flame. For most laboratory work the blue inner cone of the flame should be about one inch high and free of yellow color. If you want a smaller flame, close the air vent slightly and reduce the gas supply. You will learn how to control the burner flame by trial and error.
- 7. Turn the burner off at the main gas supply valve as soon as you have finished.

Caution: Confine long hair and loose clothing when using a gas burner. Do not reach over a burner. Ensure that flammables are not being used when a burner is lit. Never leave a lit burner unattended. Know the location of fire extinguishers, the fire blanket, and safety shower.

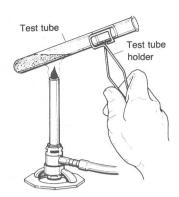


Figure 6. Heating a liquid in a test tube.

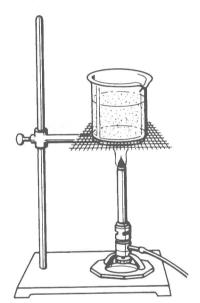


Figure 7. Heating a liquid in a beaker.

Heating Liquids

Heating a liquid in a test tube. The correct procedure for heating liquids in the laboratory is important to laboratory safety.

- 1. Adjust your gas burner to give a gentle blue flame.
- 2. Fill a test tube one-third full with the liquid to be heated.
- 3. Grasp the test tube with a test tube holder near the upper end of the tube.
- 4. Hold the test tube in a slanting position in the flame, and gently heat the tube a short distance below the surface of the liquid (Figure 6).
- 5. Shake the tube gently as it is being heated, until the liquid boils or reaches the desired temperature.

Caution: Never point the open end of a test tube you are heating either toward yourself or anyone working nearby. Never heat the bottom of the test tube.

Heating a liquid in a beaker. Many laboratory experiments require the use of a hot-water or boiling-water bath. This procedure describes how to assemble a water bath.

- 1. Fasten an iron ring securely to a ring stand so that it is about two to four centimeters above the top of a gas burner placed on the ring stand base.
- 2. Place a 250-mL beaker one-half filled with water on a wire gauze resting on the iron ring (Figure 7).
- 3. Light your gas burner and adjust it to give a hot flame.
- 4. Place the burner beneath the wire gauze. For a slower rate of heating, reduce the intensity of the burner flame.

Caution: Never heat plastic beakers or graduated glassware in a burner flame. Never let a boiling water bath boil dry; add water to it as necessary.

Inserting Glass Tubing

In many experimental procedures you are required to insert a thermometer or a length of glass tubing into a hole in a rubber stopper. It is essential that you know the correct way to do this. Otherwise serious injury may result.

- 1. Lubricate the end of the glass tubing with a few drops of water, washing-up liquid, glycerol, or vegetable oil.
- 2. Hold the glass tubing close to where it enters the hole in the rubber stopper. Protect your hands with work gloves or pieces of cloth.
- 3. Ease the tubing into the hole with a gentle twisting motion. Push the tubing through the hole as far as is required. Do not use force!
- 4. Wipe excess lubricating material from the tubing before continuing with the experiment.
- 5. If the glass tubing is to be removed from the stopper it should be done immediately after the experiment is completed.

Caution: The end of the glass tubing should be fire-polished or smoothed with emery cloth before being inserted into a rubber stopper. Do not try to bend the glass tubing—it will break. Ensure that the palm of the hand holding the rubber stopper is not in line with the emerging glass tube.



Measuring Mass

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In many experiments you are required to determine the mass of a chemical used or produced in a reaction. An object's mass is determined by measuring it on a balance. When we determine the mass of an object, we are comparing its mass with a known mass. In the SI the base unit of mass is the kilogram.

There are many types of laboratory balances. The one used most frequently in schools is the centigram balance (Figure 8). The following general rules apply to the use of all balances.

- Check the balance before you start weighing. The balance pan should be empty and clean, and all masses (or dials) should be set on zero. The balance must be level. Check the bubble level on the base. See your teacher if you need assistance with checking your balance.
- Objects to be weighed directly on the balance pan must be clean, dry, and at room temperature. Solid chemicals and liquids must never be put directly on the balance pan. Liquid samples should be placed in beakers or sealed containers. Solid chemicals can be conveniently placed in beakers, disposable plastic weighing boats, or on 10-cm squares made of glossy paper.
- The balance is a precision instrument that must be handled with care. To avoid damaging it, always be sure that the balance is in an arrested position when objects are placed on or removed from the pan. Always turn all dials slowly.
- · Never move or jar either a balance or the balance table.
- If you spill a chemical on or near the balance, clean it up immediately. If in doubt, inform your teacher. A camel-hair brush is usually provided to wipe minute traces of solid from the balance pan before you use it.
- Never attempt to weigh an object with a mass greater than the maximum capacity of the balance.
- When you finish weighing, return all the masses to zero, and make sure the balance pan is clean.

Do not attempt to use a balance until your teacher has demonstrated the proper technique.

