

AQA Chemistry GCSE

Required Practical 1

Making Salts

Methods taken from the AQA Required Practical Handbook



Preparation of a Pure Dry Salt

Aim

Preparation of a pure, dry sample of a soluble salt from an insoluble oxide or carbonate using a Bunsen burner to heat dilute acid and a water bath or electric heater to evaporate the solution.

Equipment list

- 1.0 M dilute sulfuric acid
- Copper (II) oxide powder
- A spatula
- A glass rod
- A measuring cylinder
- Two beakers: one 100 cm³ and one 250 cm³
- Bunsen burner
- Tripod
- Gauze
- Heatproof mat
- Filter funnel and paper
- A small conical flask
- An evaporating basin
- A crystallising dish

Method

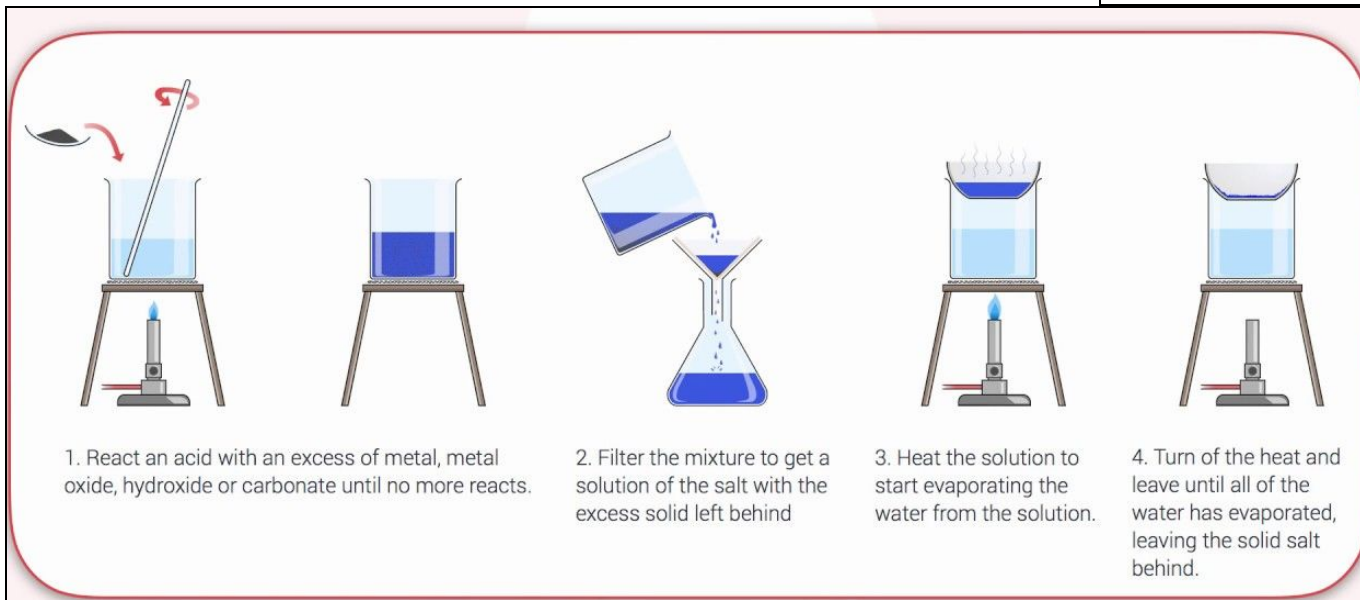
1. Measure 20 cm³ sulfuric acid into a measuring cylinder and pour it into beaker.
2. Heat the acid gently using a Bunsen burner.
3. Add small amounts of insoluble base in this case copper oxide in excess (until no more reacts thus no more effervescence is produced).
4. Filter using filter paper and funnel the solution to remove the excess copper oxide.
5. Pour the solution into the evaporating basin.
6. Evaporate the solution using a water bath until crystals start to form.
7. Leave the evaporating basin in a cool place for at least 24 hours.
8. Gently pat the crystals dry between two pieces of filter paper.





Diagram

Image courtesy of myGCSEscience



Safety Precautions

- Wear safety goggles as sulphuric acid is corrosive.
- Make sure hair is tied back.
- When the Bunsen burner is not in use, turn it off or leave it on the orange safety flame.

