

Chemical Vs. Physical Changes

Introduction: When you shower, cook food, color your hair, perm your hair, eat food, and exercise you perform chemical reactions. Chemical reactions are also performed in chemistry laboratories in order to better our lives (i.e., shampoo is made in a chemical laboratory, food is enriched in a chemistry laboratory, many fabrics are made or dyed in a lab, etc). You also perform a number of physical changes in your everyday life (cut your hair, fold paper, freeze ice, tear your shirt, etc). In this lab you are to follow the directions and determine if a chemical reaction (change) or a physical change occurred.

Pre-Lab Questions: Completely read the lab and then return to this section to answer these questions.

1. Name two general lab safety precautions.
2. What specific safety precautions do you need to keep in mind when doing **THIS** lab?

Procedure:

*Warning: Hydrochloric acid, HCl, and sodium hydroxide, NaOH, can cause chemical burns. Rinse with **water only for 20 minutes** if you feel burning or itching.*

The steps below do not have to be completed in the order written.

- A. Place a few pieces (about 3 – 5) of magnesium metal in a test tube. (You can touch magnesium with your hands.) Add a pipette squirt of HCL (hydrochloric acid) to the test tube. Record your observations below. Empty this test tube into **ACID-BASE** waste container.
- B. Add one pipette squirts of CuCl_2 (or CuSO_4) to a test tube. Add about one pipette squirt of NaOH to the test tube. Record observations below. Empty this test tube **COPPER** waste container.
- C. Add about one pipette squirt saturated NaOH to a clean test tube. Add about one pipette squirt water drop-wise to the test tube. Record observations below. **Save your test tube to use in the next reaction.**
- D. To the same test tube, add two drops of phenolphthalein. Swirl your test tube. Record your observations below. **Save your test tube to use in the next reaction**
- E. To the same test tube, add hydrochloric acid until you see a color change. Pour into the **ACID-BASE** waste.
- F. Watch as your instructor shows you the last change.
- G. Wash all glassware, your lab area, and your hands with soap and water.

	Observations (Describe ONLY what you see, feel, smell, or hear. Be specific.)	Chemical or Physical Change?
A		
B		
C		
D		
E		
F		

Label as a physical (P) or chemical (C) change.

- ___ 1. The volume changed from 10 ml to 100 ml
- ___ 2. My pink shirt turned white when bleach spilled on it.
- ___ 3. My paper ripped in half.
- ___ 4. I folded my paper.
- ___ 5. I lit a Bunsen burner.
- ___ 6. After being in the fridge for 3 weeks, the milk developed a terrible smell.
- ___ 7. Ice forms on the roads in winter.
- ___ 8. I mixed two chemicals and it became very, very cold.
- ___ 9. Light was produced when two chemicals were mixed.
- ___ 10. Bubbles formed when I mixed magnesium and hydrochloric acid.
- ___ 11. Bubbles formed when I put a pot of water on the stove.
- ___ 12. I exercised and lost 5 pounds.

Label as a physical (P) or chemical (C) property.

- ___ 13. Silver tarnishes (turns black) when it comes in contact with hydrogen sulfide in the air.
- ___ 14. Ice melts at 0°C.
- ___ 15. Milk will spoil if left on the counter for a week.
- ___ 16. Perfume has a nice smell.
- ___ 17. Glass is fragile.
- ___ 18. Neon does not react with any other element.
- ___ 19. My eyes are brown.
- ___ 20. Salt is soluble in water.
- ___ 21. Perfume irritates my eyes.
- ___ 22. Aluminum is malleable (can be flattened into sheets).
- ___ 23. Wood can burn.
- ___ 24. Gasoline is flammable.
- ___ 25. Hydrogen has a density of .0899 g/L.
- ___ 26. Water freezes in winter to form ice.
- ___ 27. Grapes aren't toxic.
- ___ 28. Water boils at 100°C.
- ___ 29. The sweater is soft and warm.
- ___ 30. Glass cannot be cut easily.