

PARAFORMALDEHYDE

Final solution: 4 liters of 8% paraformaldehyde, pH 7.6

Ingredients: 320 g of paraformaldehyde powder
10 N NaOH
4 liters of double distilled water (dd H₂O)

All procedures are done in a well ventilated hood!

- Heat 3 liters of dd H₂O to 55 to 60°C. Never let the temperature rise to more than 65°C, it will ruin the paraformaldehyde; when this happens, the solution stays cloudy and you should start over again.
- Transfer the flask to heating-stirring plate and set temperature to 60°C.
- Add 360 g of paraformaldehyde powder while stirring. Check temperature frequently to make sure it does not go over 65°C.
- After 1 hour of stirring add 10 to 15 drops of NaOH to solution. Let solution stir until it becomes clear (if it is cloudy, it is not ready!).
- Then gravity filter, using a paper filter and a funnel, into 4 liter bottle.
- Add dd H₂O until final volume is 4 liters.

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Paraformaldehyde EM grade (500g) Catalogue # 19200

FISHER

Sodium hydroxide (NaOH) 10.0 NORMAL (volumetric solution)
1 liter Catalogue # SS255-1