

Making pure salt from rock salt – practical

P When salt is mined it comes out of the ground as rock salt. Rock salt is a mixture of solid rock and salt. You can make pure salt from rock salt in the laboratory.

Apparatus

- Rock salt
- Mortar and pestle
- Two beakers
- Stirring rod
- Funnel
- Filter paper
- Evaporating basin
- Tripod
- Gauze
- Heat-proof mat
- Bunsen burner
- Eye protection



Always wear eye protection when heating chemicals.

Method

- 1 Crush some rock salt using the mortar and pestle.
- 2 Put the crushed rock salt into a beaker and add some water. Stir the mixture.
- 3 Carefully filter the mixture. The liquid that comes through the filter paper should be clear.
- 4 Put a little liquid in an evaporating basin and heat it. WEAR EYE PROTECTION.
- 5 The powder that is left in the evaporating basin should be pure salt.

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- 1 Describe how you obtained pure salt from rock salt.
 - 2 Draw a neat diagram to show how you evaporated the liquid.
 - 3 Why did you crush the rock salt in Step 1?
 - 4 What happened to the salt in the rock salt when you added water.
 - 5 When you filtered the mixture, what was left in the filter paper?
 - 6 Why didn't filtering remove the salt from the water?

S observing, considering