

**Preparing and mixing acid solutions for the use in the Cosmoegnic
RadioNuclide (CRN) Target Preparation Facility –
Bodo Bookhagen, UC Santa Barbara Geography Department**

Standard Concentrations and Normality of Acids:

Hydrochloric Acid, HCl conc. (36%): 12N ($\rho = 1.19 \text{ g/mL}$)

Nitric Acid, HNO₃ conc. (69%): 15.8N ($\rho = 1.42 \text{ g/mL}$)

Sulfuric Acid, H₂SO₄ (95.8%): 36N ($\rho = 1.84 \text{ g/mL}$)

Ammonium Hydroxide, NH₄OH (29%): 14.8N ($\rho = 0.90 \text{ g/mL}$)

Acetic Acid, CH₃CO₂H (99.8%): 17.4N ($\rho = 1.05 \text{ g/mL}$)

You use the following relation to calculate the volumes of acid mixtures with a given normality (N):

$$N_1 \times V_1 = N_2 \times V_2$$

$$V_1 = V_2 \times N_2 / N_1$$

Example: Preparation of 6N Hydrochloric Acid (1:1 HCl)

$$N_1 = 12\text{N (conc. HCl)}$$

$$N_2 = 6\text{N}$$

$$V_2 = 2000\text{mL}$$

$$V_1 = 2000\text{mL} \times 6\text{N} / 12\text{N}$$

$$V_1 = 1000\text{mL}$$

To prepare a 2L 6N HCl solution, you mix 1L of conc. HCl with 1L of milliQ water.

Acid Normality Mixture to make a 2000mL solution

HCl 0.5N 83mL of conc. HCl (36%) + 1917mL of milliQ water

HCl 1N 167mL of conc. HCl (36%) + 1833mL of milliQ water

HCl 6N 1000mL of conc. HCl (36%) + 1000mL of milliQ water

HCl 8N 1333mL of conc. HCl (36%) + 667mL of milliQ water

Making a 1% Hydrofluoric and 1% Nitric acid mixture

For a 20 L solution, you use 49% HF: $0.2 / 0.49 = 0.41\text{L}$
and 69% HNO₃: $0.2 / 0.69 = 0.29\text{L}$ and 19.3L milliQ water.

Making a 5% Hydrofluoric and 5% Nitric acid mixture

For a 20 L solution, you use 49% HF: $1 / 0.49 = 2.04\text{L}$
and 69% HNO₃: $1 / 0.69 = 1.45\text{L}$ and 16.5L milliQ water.

Mixing of 0.4M Oxalic acid (COOH)₂

Molar weight of Oxalic acid, M = 126.07 g/mol

Mixing a 2 liter 0.4M oxalic acid solution:

$$126.07 \text{ g/mol} \times 0.4 \text{ mol/l} \times 2 = 100.9 \text{ g}$$

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Mixing a 1 liter 0.4M oxalic acid solution:

$$126.07 \text{ g/mol} \times 0.4 \text{ mol/l} = 50.5 \text{ g}$$

Put the weight of 100.9 g into the 2L LDPE bottle and add 2L of water.

Close lid, shake well – it may take up to several hours until all crystals are dissolved.