

DETECTING CHLORIDE

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Goal

Apply a technique to determine if a food or a solution contains chloride mineral salts.

Materials

- 2 test tubes (15 mm × 125 mm)
- test-tube rack
- marker
- dropper bottle of distilled water
- dropper bottle of sodium chloride solution
- dropper bottle of silver nitrate solution

Procedure



1. Number the test tubes 1 and 2 with the marker.
2. Add 20 drops of distilled water to test tube 1.
3. Add 20 drops of sodium chloride solution to test tube 2.
4. Add 4 drops of silver nitrate solution to each test tube.
5. Observe the contents of the test tubes and record your observations.
6. Clean up and put away materials.

Results

Record your observations in the table below. Give the table a title.

Title:

Test tube	Substances in test tube	Observations



Name: _____ Group: _____ Date: _____

Reflecting on the lab technique

1. Since chloride in the form of salt is often present in foods, what category of nutrient is it?

2. What indicator is used to detect chloride?

3. How can the presence of chloride in a food or a solution be confirmed using this indicator?

4. Could calcium chloride be detected using this indicator? Explain your answer.

5. Why is a test tube containing only distilled water and the indicator prepared?

6. Are the results you obtained conclusive? If not, what are the possible sources of error?

