

# DETERMINING ACIDITY, ALKALINITY AND NEUTRALITY

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## Goal

Determine if a substance is acidic, alkaline or neutral.

## Observation criteria

1. What test helps to determine if a substance is acidic, alkaline or neutral?

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2. What would be the test result for an acidic substance?

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3. What would be the test result for an alkaline substance?

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4. What would be the test result for a neutral substance?

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## Materials

- 7 neutral litmus paper strips
- spot plate
- dropper bottle of milk
- dropper bottle of apple juice
- dropper bottle of shampoo
- dropper bottle of soft drink
- dropper bottle of glass cleaner
- dropper bottle of all-purpose cleaner
- dropper bottle of tap water



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Group: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Procedure



1. Set one neutral litmus paper strip into a well of the spot plate.
2. Place a drop of milk on the litmus paper.
3. Repeat steps 1 to 2 with each of the other substances.
4. Clean up and put away materials.

## Observations

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

Title:

Substance	Colour of neutral litmus paper

## Reflecting on the lab technique

1. Do your observations help you to better understand how to determine if a substance is acidic, alkaline or neutral? Explain your answer.

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2. Which substances are acidic?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Which substances are alkaline?

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Which substances are neutral?

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Were you surprised by some of the results? If yes, which ones?

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6. How could you improve the protocol for this lab?

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