

Homemade Hand Cream

Skin creams help make skin look smoother by putting moisture back into the skin and creating a barrier to prevent evaporation. Of course, the best way to make your skin look good is to eat a proper diet and drink plenty of water.

Make a hand cream using readily available products.

Safety Precautions



- Do not touch the hot plate.
- To unplug a hot plate, pull on the plug, not the cord.
- Clean up the work area and wash your hands thoroughly at the end of this activity.

What You Need

60 mL distilled water
100 mL graduated cylinder
100 mL beaker
1 g borax
120 mL mineral oil
250 mL beaker
30 mL grated beeswax
1000 mL beaker or small pot with two short handles
hot plate and wire mesh screen
heat-proof gloves
long-handled spoon
ice bath or access to a refrigerator
jar

What to Do

1. Use the graduated cylinder to add 60 mL of distilled water to the 100 mL beaker.
2. Dissolve the borax in the distilled water. Set the beaker aside.
3. Use the graduated cylinder to add 120 mL of mineral oil to the 250 mL beaker. Add the beeswax to the mineral oil.
4. Pour approximately 100 mL of tap water into the 1000 mL beaker or saucepan. Place this on the hot plate and gradually warm the water. This is the hot water bath.
5. Carefully place the 250 mL beaker of oil and wax mixture into the hot water bath. Heat the mixture for approximately 10 minutes or until the beeswax melts.

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6. Put on heat-proof gloves. Carefully remove the melted oil-wax mixture from the hot water bath. Remove the hot water bath from the hot plate.
7. Place the 100 mL beaker containing the borax solution on the hot plate and bring it a boil.
8. Slowly add the borax solution to the oil-wax mixture. Stir this mixture continuously.
9. Cool the beaker containing the oil, wax, water, and borax mixture in an ice bath or the refrigerator.
10. Check the beaker every 5 min for the remainder of the class.

What Did You Learn?

11. a) How is homemade hand cream similar to commercial hand cream?

- b) How is homemade hand cream different from commercial hand cream?

12. a) Did your list of ingredients include any preservatives? YES NO
Explain.

- b) List two safety precautions to write on the jar of homemade hand cream to keep everyone safe.

13. Describe a fair test you could do to compare homemade hand cream with commercial hand cream. Identify the variables in the spaces below.

Description _____

Variable that I would manipulate _____

Variable that would respond _____

Variables that I would control _____