

Experiment 9

CLASSIFICATION OF CHEMICAL REACTIONS

Learning Objectives

By the end of this experiment the student should have learned:

1. A scheme for classifying reactions
2. How to balance equations
3. The common observations associated with a chemical change

(Note: This is a short experiment and may be combined with another experiment.)

Text Topics

Classification of reactions, balancing equations (Malone, Chapter 9).

Exercises

For additional problem solving experience with balancing of equations, see Exercises 18, 23.

Discussion

The process of classification often assists with the simplification and solution of problems. Classification of diseases by cause; viral, bacterial or fungal, facilitates proper treatment. The sciences are frequently classified into subdisciplines. Chemistry is often subdivided into organic, inorganic, analytical, theoretical and physical branches. Attempts have been made to classify reactions by type.