

Crystal growing



Name	Crystal growing
Description	Experimenting with crystal growing
Status	Running
Contact	metalgamer
Participants	
Repository	

Copper Sulfate



Picture 1.1: Materials

The first crystals, that we are growing are copper sulfate crystals. They give an intense blue color and are quite easy to grow. For this, we need to acquire [Copper\(II\)-sulfate pentahydrate](#). The chemical formula is: $\text{CuSO}_4 \cdot 5 \text{ H}_2\text{O}$

Gather your materials:

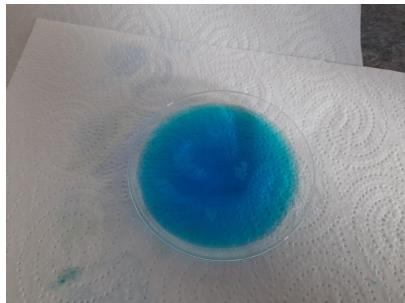
- Copper(II)-sulfate pentahydrate
- Water
- Beaker
- Glass dish
- Spoon
- Skewer
- Thread
- Funnel
- Cotton pad



Picture 1.2: Finished solution of Copper(II)-sulfate pentahydrate

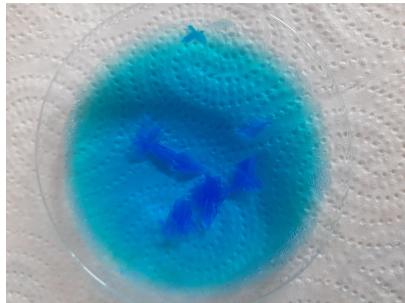
Begin with boiling about 800ml of water. When it is boiling, transfer it to the beaker and start adding Copper(II)-sulfate pentahydrate until nothing will dissolve anymore. It should have a deep blue color, see picture 1.2.

Pour a little of the solution onto the glass dish, this will be used to grow some seed crystals. See picture 1.3.

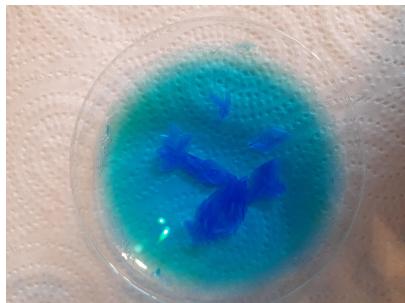


 **Picture 1.3:** Solution on glass dish

Now, we have to wait, until we have seed crystals:

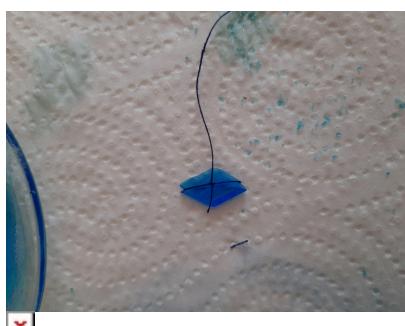


 **Picture 1.4:** After 2 hours



 **Picture 1.5:** After 3 hours

After about 3 hours, we can pick out one of the seed crystals and fix them to a piece of string (picture 1.5).



Picture 1.6: Seed crystal on string**Picture 1.7:** Seed crystal in solution

This seed crystal can now be hung into the solution and let it sit overnight.

**Picture 1.8:** Crystal after growing overnight**Picture 1.9:** Polycrystals of Copper(II)-sulfate pentahydrate

The next day, take out your polycrystals and filter the solution. Use a cotton pad in your funnel.



 **Picture 1.10:** Filtering



 **Picture 1.11:** Filtering with cotton pad

Clear out the bottom of the beaker, as a lot of crystals have grown on it.



 **Picture 1.12:** Crystals on bottom of beaker

After the solution has been filtered, pour it back into the beaker and hang your polycrystal back into it.



Picture 1.13: Crystals in solution after filtering

After one week, filter the solution again and clean the beaker.



Picture 1.14: Crystals after one week



Picture 1.15: Crystals after one week

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