

Measuring reactive phosphorous 2

UNIT: Parts per billion (ppb)

EQUIPMENT: Reactive phosphorous kit, a colour comparator test kit

- Phosphate tablets
- Square test tubes and caps
- Instruction/colour charts
- Beaker
- Safety glasses and gloves
- Watch/timer (not included in kit)



Instructions

1. Use beaker to fill the test tubes to 10mL line with sample water.
2. Phosphate tablets will be distributed by the educator while wearing gloves and safety glasses. They will **add one tablet** to the test tube.
3. Cap the tube and wearing gloves and eyes glasses, invert tube (turn upside down and back) until the tablet is completely dissolved. This can take 3 – 4 minutes.
4. Then **wait 6 minutes** for the test to work. Invert tube once (turn upside down) to mix.
5. Remove the cap on tube and place bottom of tube on the white square in the dotted lines on the colour chart.
6. Look down tube to match sample colour to a colour standard.
7. Record the result of the matching colour sample on the water quality data sheet or enter directly into the website.
8. Compare your result to the rating chart for your region.

After testing remember to:

- Wash your hands
- Pour completed test into waste container. Dispose by rinsing down sink.
- Rinse out test tubes.

Storage

- Keep containers tightly closed in a dry, cool and well-ventilated place.
- Keep away from heat, moisture and incompatibles.
- Keep in a locked cupboard away from students.