

How to Use a Buret

Conditioning and Preparation

1. Ensure the stopcock is closed. Add about 3 mL of distilled water to the buret. Slowly pour the water from the top of the buret into a waste beaker. As you pour, twirl the buret with your fingers to coat all sides of the buret.
2. Repeat Step 1 with another 3 mL of distilled water.
3. Ensure the stopcock is closed. Use a funnel to add 3 mL of the titrant solution. Rinse the buret with the titrant solution using the same method as the water.
4. Repeat Step 3 with another 3 mL of the titrant solution.
5. Close the stopcock and use a funnel to fill the buret slightly above the 0 mL mark. You may need to lift up on the funnel slightly to allow the solution to flow in freely.
6. Place a waste beaker under the buret. Open the stopcock for a few seconds allowing some of the solution to drain into the waste beaker.
7. Check for air bubbles in the tip of the buret. To remove an air bubble, gently tap the side of the buret tip while solution is flowing into a waste beaker. If an air bubble is present during a titration, volume readings may be in error.
8. Adjust the volume in the buret so that the volume is between the 0 and 5 mL marks.
9. Use a wash bottle to rinse the tip of the buret. Wipe dry the tip.

Titrating

10. Record the initial volume in the buret. Be sure to read the bottom of the meniscus. Remember that mL measurements increase down the buret.
11. Place reaction flask under the buret and begin titrating.
12. Open the stopcock to deliver solution to the flask. Swirl the flask after each addition.
13. As you approach the endpoint, add dropwise. Use a wash bottle to rinse the tip of the buret and sides of the flask.
14. Once endpoint is reached, record the final volume in the buret.
15. Dispose of flask contents as instructed.
16. Repeat Steps 10-15 for additional trials as needed.

Disposal and Clean Up

17. Dispose of the titrant solution as instructed.
18. Rinse the buret and tip twice with tap water.
19. Rinse the buret and tip twice with distilled water.