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How to Make Ammonium Nitrate

Ammonium Nitrate has been used in times of war when dynamite was limited. In its pure form, ammonium nitrate can be detonated with a #6 dynamite cap at a blast radius of 14,000 feet per second. This page will explain how to purify ammonium nitrate from ordinary fertilizer bought at any garden store. It also will explain some of the uses of it. Since some of the uses require a blasting cap, I will first explain how to make simple blasting caps that should be sufficient enough to detonate the explosives.

Materials: Source:

Nitric Acid (concentrated) bought from a chemical supply house. (Look

in phone book under lab supplies)

Mercury Taken out of old air conditioning

switches, buy from a chemical supply

house, or a bunch of mercury

thermometers from a grocery store, etc.

First take a bottle and pour 1000 cm (cm cubed) of concentrated, pure nitric acid with a specific weight of 1,42 into the bottle. Then pour 120 grams of mercury into the acid and let it set for 12 hours. After 12 hours put a stopper over the bottle (be sure it is acid resistant) and turn the bottle over so the materials mix (do not shake the bottle unless your committing suicide). After some time fumes may form so be sure to air the container out every so often. After a few hours pour the mixture into a container with a large opening filled with 1280 grams of 95% pure alcohol. After a short time, toxic fumes will form. When this stops, the nitrated mercury will lay at the bottom of the bottle. It must be washed with distilled water and dried in the sun on a glass plate. To make a blasting cap, just take a bullet shell (be sure it is a little bigger than a 22cal.) and fill it about half full of nitrated mercury. Insert 2 wires and connect it to a sufficient power supply and BOOM.

Now on to purifying ammonium nitrate. First take a fairly large pan and pour several pounds of fertilizer in it. Pour enough wood alcohol (methanol) to cover the fertilizer. Stir it until you can no longer dissolve any more of the fertilizer. Next, set another pan on some dry ice, which can be found in the phone book under "dry ice". Get the pan extremely cold then pour the dissolved fertilizer into it leaving the un-dissolved particles in the first pan. The dry ice will cause the ammonium nitrate to precipitate into crystals. When no more crystals are formed, strain them out with a paper towel and allow them to dry. Store it in a tightly closed container.

Use for Ammonium Nitrate:

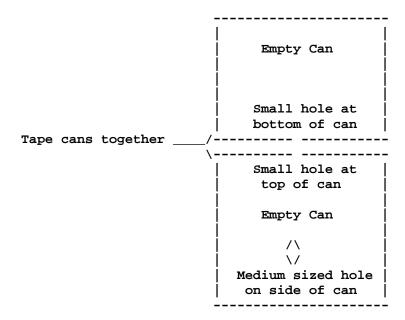
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Ammonium Nitrate/Aluminum Explosive

This is a simple, dry explosive that requires ammonium nitrate and aluminum powder (aluminum powder can be made by filing an aluminum rod bought at any hardware store). To begin, take a handful of ammonium nitrate and put it on a large flat board. Take another board large enough to fit in the palm of your hand and rub the pile of ammonium nitrate vigorously until it is a fine powder. Measure out 4 parts of ammonium nitrate to 1 part aluminum powder. Put these in an air tight container and shake it back and fourth until they are thoroughly mixed. To make the explosive, you will need one of the blasting caps shown how to make in the beginning of the previous page. Take a pipe with 2 end caps and fill it almost full of the explosive mixture. Insert the blasting cap just beneath the surface. Connect it to a power source.

Zinc Dust/Ammonium Nitrate Igniter

This is a water activated incendiary used in various chemical time delays. To start, you will need ammonium nitrate in which you have purified, and zinc dust which may be found at paint stores as bronzing powder or bought from a chemical supply house. Measure out 5 parts of zinc powder to 15 parts of ammonium nitrate and mix them thoroughly in an air tight container. Be sure all the materials you are using are extremely dry, even a trace of moisture may ignite the mixture spontaneously. To make the mixture ignite, simply place a drop or so of water on it. A good delay may be made by using the following diagram:



To start the delay spread the igniter around the bottom can, then fill the top can with water. The water will begin to drip from the hole in the top can into the bottom can. When the water fills up enough to reach the hole in the side of the can, water will come out onto the igniter thus igniting it.