

3. Calculation of formula for preparation

Prepare 20 g of Salicylic Acid and Sulphur Cream BP.

Product formula

(from the *British Pharmacopoeia* 1980, p 548)

	Master	100 g	10 g	30 g
Salicylic Acid BP	20 g	2 g	200 mg	600 mg
Precipitated Sulphur BP	20 g	2 g	200 mg	600 mg
Aqueous Cream BP	960 g	96 g	9.6 g	28.8 g

4. Method of preparation

a. Solubility where applicable

Not applicable.

b. Vehicle/diluent

Aqueous Cream BP is used as the base in this preparation as per the product formula.

c. Preservative

There is no preservative included as per the product formula.

d. Flavouring when appropriate

Creams are for external use and so no flavouring is required.

The following method would be used to prepare 30 g of Salicylic Acid and Sulphur Cream BP from the formula above:

1. Weigh 600 mg Salicylic Acid BP on a Class II or electronic balance.
2. Transfer to a glass mortar and grind with a pestle.
3. Weigh 600 mg Precipitated Sulphur BP on a Class II or electronic balance.

Tips

Note that a vulcanite spatula would be the spatula of choice as traditional stainless steel spatulas may react with acids, tannins, iodine and mercury salts.

Vulcanite (also called ebonite) is a hard, usually black, rubber produced by vulcanising natural rubber with sulphur. Such spatulas are used for making ointments containing corrosive substances or substances that react with steel.

4. Add to the Salicylic Acid BP in the glass mortar and continue mixing with a pestle until a smooth well-mixed powder is formed.
5. Transfer the powder to a glass tile.
6. Weigh 28.8 g Aqueous Cream BP on a Class II or electronic balance.
7. Transfer the Aqueous Cream BP to the glass tile and triturate with the powders to produce a smooth product.
8. Weigh 20 g of the product and pack into a collapsible tube or amber glass jar. Label and dispense.