

Product formula

(from the *British Pharmacopoeia* 1980, p 577)

	Master	100 ml	50 ml
Menthol BP	20 g	2 g	1 g
Eucalyptus Oil BP	100 ml	10 ml	5 ml
Light Magnesium Carbonate BP	70 g	7 g	3.5 g
Potable water	to 1000 ml	to 100 ml	to 50 ml

4. Method of preparation

a. Solubility where applicable

The *British Pharmacopoeia* states that Menthol BP is freely soluble in fixed oils and liquid paraffin (*British Pharmacopoeia* 1988, p 358).

b. Vehicle/diluent

Potable water would be used as the vehicle as per the formula.

c. Preservative

No preservative is included in this product as per the product formula.

d. Flavouring when appropriate

This product is for external use and so no flavouring is required.

The following method would be used to prepare 50 ml of Menthol and Eucalyptus Inhalation BP from the formula above:

1. Weigh 1 g Menthol BP on a Class II or electronic balance.
2. Transfer to a glass mortar.
3. Measure 5 ml Eucalyptus Oil BP in a 5 ml conical measure.
4. Transfer to the mortar and mix with a pestle to dissolve the menthol.
5. Weigh 3.5 g Light Magnesium Carbonate BP on a Class II or electronic balance.
6. Add to the mortar and mix well.
7. Add potable water to the mixture in the mortar to form a pourable suspension.
8. Transfer the contents of the mortar to a 50 ml conical measure.
9. Rinse the mortar with potable water and add the rinsings to the conical measure.
10. Make up to volume with potable water.

Tips

Menthol BP is freely soluble in fixed and volatile oils.

The Eucalyptus Oil BP should be measured in a glass conical measure as the oil will dissolve away the graduation markings on a syringe.