

1 Percent

Example:

What is 28% of 286?

Step 1. Change the 28% to a decimal equivalent:

$$28\% \div 100 = 0.28$$

Step 2. Multiply $286 \times 0.28 = 80$

Thus 28% of 286 is 80.

Example: A filter bed will expand 25% during backwash. If the filter bed is 36 inches deep, how deep will it be during backwash?

Step 1. Change the percent to a decimal.

$$25\% \div 100 = 0.25$$

Step 2. Add the whole number 1 to this value.

$$1 + 0.25 = 1.25$$

Step 3. Multiply times the value.

$$36 \text{ in} \times 1.25 = 45 \text{ inches}$$

1. What is 20% of 250?

Solution:

$$20\% = \frac{20}{100} = 0.2 \implies 20\% \text{ of } 250 = 0.2 * 250 = \boxed{50}$$

2. What percent is 0.4 of 4?

Solution:

$$x\% = \frac{x}{100} \implies 0.4 = \frac{x}{100} * 4 \implies x = \frac{0.4 * 100}{4} = \boxed{10\%}$$

1.1 Percentage Concentrations

Example 1: A chlorine solution was made to have a 4% concentration. It is often desirable to determine this concentration in mg/L. This is relatively simple: the 4% is four percent of a million.

To find the concentration in mg/L when it is expressed in percent, do the following:

1. Change the percent to a decimal.

$$4\% \div 100 = 0.04$$

3. Multiply times a million.

$$0.04 \times 1,000,000 = 40,000 \text{mg/L}$$

We get the million because a liter of water weighs 1,000,000mg. 1mg in 1 liter is 1 part in a million parts (ppm). $1\% = 10,000 \text{mg/L}$.

Example 2: How much 65% calcium hypochlorite is required to obtain 7 pounds of pure chlorine?

65% implies that in every lb of calcium hypochlorite has 65% lbs of available chlorine.

Therefore, $\frac{0.65 \text{ lbs available chlorine}}{\text{lb of calcium hypochlorite}}$ or conversely $\frac{\text{lb of calcium hypochlorite}}{0.65 \text{ lbs available chlorine}}$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \text{lbs calcium hypochlorite required} &= \frac{\text{lb of calcium hypochlorite}}{0.65 \text{ lbs available chlorine}} * \frac{7 \text{ lb of available chlorine}}{1} \\ &= \boxed{10.8 \text{ lbs of calcium hypochlorite with 65\% available chlorine is required}} \end{aligned}$$

1. 25% of the chlorine in a 30-gallon vat has been used. How many gallons are remaining in the vat?

Solution:

Amount of chlorine remaining in the vat is $100\% - 25\% = 75\%$

Gallons of chlorine remaining in the vat: $30 * 0.75 = \boxed{22.5 \text{ gallons}}$

2. The annual public works budget is \$147,450. If 75% of the budget should be spent by the end of September, how many dollars are to be spent? How many dollars will be remaining?

Solution:

Amount to be spent = $\$147,450 * 0.75 = \boxed{\$110,812.50}$

Amount remaining = $\$147,450 - 110,812.50 = \boxed{\$36,637.50}$

3. A 75 pound container of calcium hypochlorite has a purity of 67%. What is the actual weight of the calcium hypochlorite in the container?

Solution:

Note: Calcium Hypochlorite can be written as $\text{Ca}(\text{OCl})_2$

$$75 \text{ lbs } \text{Ca}(\text{OCl})_2 - \text{product in container} * \frac{0.67 \text{ lbs } \text{Ca}(\text{OCl})_2}{\text{lb } \text{Ca}(\text{OCl})_2 - \text{product in container}} = \boxed{50.25 \text{ lbs } \text{Ca}(\text{OCl})_2}$$

4. $3/4$ is the same as what percentage?

$$\frac{3}{4} = 0.75 \text{ which is } \frac{75}{100} = \boxed{75\%}$$

5. An operator mixes 40 lb of lime in a 100-gal tank containing 80 gal of water. What is the percent of lime in the slurry? Solution: