

Which salt compound best mummifies an apple?



Materials you need

- 5 peeled and cored apples
- 5 1 litre ice cream containers
- large drum of table salt
- spring balance (scales)
- large box of baking soda
- large mixing bowl
- large box of Epsom salts
- sticky labels
- sharp knife
- measuring cup

Method

- a) Label each container 1 to 5.
- b) Place a peeled and cored apple into each ice cream container.
- c) Weigh each container and apple using the spring balance.
- d) Record the starting weight in the results table at the bottom of this page.
- e) Read the table below and add the different salt compound amounts to each container. Make sure that each apple is completely covered with the salt compound.

Container number	Amount to add	Salt compound to add
1	1 measuring cupful	table salt
2	1 measuring cupful	Epsom salts
3	1 measuring cupful	bicarbonate of soda
4	1/3 measuring cupful	table salt/Epsom salts/bicarbonate of soda
5	nothing	nothing

- f) Place the containers and their contents out of direct sunlight.
- g) Leave them for a few days.
- h) After a few days, take each apple out of its container and brush off as much of the salt compound as you can. Remember not to wash the apple as this will add water and make it heavier.
- i) Reweigh each apple.
- j) Record the final weight in the results table.

Results Table

Container number	Starting weight	Final weight
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		