
TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Silver Nitrate Crystal Ampoules

Catalog No. SN208

INTRODUCTION

Silver Nitrate reacts with chlorides present in latent fingerprints to produce silver chloride, a compound that turns dark grayish-brown when exposed to light. Selectivity in use is a consideration since some background materials contain chlorides. Silver Nitrate is especially effective for developing latent prints on raw wood and when used sequentially on paper documents as the final process (iodine fuming, ninhydrin and then silver nitrate). Each method responds chemically to different constituents of a latent print: Iodine—oily residue; Ninhydrin—amino acids; Silver Nitrate—chlorides.

PRECAUTIONS

- Before using this product, consult the appropriate Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) found on our website at www.sirchie.com/support.



- Skin and eye irritant. If contact made with skin, wash with soap and water—consult physician if irritation occurs. If contact made with eyes, flush with plenty of water for approximately 15 minutes—seek medical attention.

PROCEDURE

Materials Needed:

- 2- SN208 Silver Nitrate Crystal Ampoules
- 10ml- Distilled Water
- 100ml- Ethanol
- 1- Mixing Beaker, 200ml
- 1- Capped Amber Glass Bottle

Silver Nitrate Working Solution

1. Select 2 of the SN208 Silver Nitrate Crystal Ampoules. Tap each ampoule to ensure that the crystals are at the base of the ampoule and carefully break off the extension neck of each ampoule (Fig. 1).
2. Pour the crystals into a beaker containing 10ml of distilled water and mix until the crystals are completely dissolved.
3. Slowly add 100ml of Ethanol. *NOTE: This working solution is light-sensitive and should be stored in a dark, cool place in a capped amber glass bottle.*
4. To accelerate development of latent prints treated with silver nitrate, use No. SNA4 Silver Nitrate Accelerator Lamp (shown to the right).



FIGURE 1



No. SNA4