

Percent Composition of Magnesium - Points to Remember

The experimental goal of this lab is to obtain three good mass values and good visual observations:

Mass of Empty Crucible and Lid	
Mass of Crucible, Lid and Magnesium	
Mass of Crucible, Lid and Magnesium Oxide Product	

Visual Observations:

Things to Remember:

- goggles, hair and loose clothing
- clean crucible with sand paper and water, rinse with acetone
- be sure balance reads 000.000 before any mass measurement
- assemble equipment as shown with retort ring up high and crucible perched high in the clay triangle
- adjust burner flame properly, maximum heat until red hot
- lift lid quickly at first (trap the smoke)
- longer wafts as reaction nears completion (don't let the smoke out)
- make sure reaction is complete
- heat until fire flies go away
- add water
- heat again
- only cool crucibles on the balance (don't forget your lid)