

Instructions for making your own Black Powder. Great for some muzzle loaders and model rocket fuel.

BE CAREFUL! This is hazardous stuff!

Things You'll Need

- Potassium nitrate (saltpeter)
- Real charcoal
- Sulfur
- Distilled water
- Mortar and pestle
- Sieve

1. Separate your ingredients. The recipe for black powder is 75 percent potassium nitrate, 15 percent charcoal and 10 percent sulfur. This is usually measured by weight: 75 parts to 15 parts to 10 parts.
2. Finely grind the ingredients. For safety's sake, grind them all separately and clean out the mortar and pestle thoroughly between crushings.
3. Mix all of the ingredients with a small amount of distilled water until the substance is the consistency of **cookie** dough.
4. Place small amounts of the mixture in a fine sieve and slowly pour small amounts of alcohol through them. This is a dangerous step; do not perform it near sparks or flame. This step can be skipped, but the resultant black powder will be of poor **quality**.
5. Hand-form the mixture into small, rectangular shapes. This is called "corning." Allow the shapes to dry thoroughly.