

Status: Currently Official on 14-Feb-2025  
Official Date: Official as of 01-Jan-2018  
Document Type: USP Monographs  
DocId: GUID-B666E61C-662A-4D8F-A04F-633B393D9804\_3\_en-US  
DOI: [https://doi.org/10.31003/USPNF\\_M11710\\_03\\_01](https://doi.org/10.31003/USPNF_M11710_03_01)  
DOI Ref: I5xwt

© 2025 USPC  
Do not distribute

# Calcium Hydroxide

Ca(OH)<sub>2</sub> 74.09  
Calcium hydroxide CAS RN®: 1305-62-0; UNII: PF5DZW74VN.

**DEFINITION**  
Calcium Hydroxide contains NLT 95.0% and NMT 100.5% of calcium hydroxide [Ca(OH)<sub>2</sub>].

**IDENTIFICATION**

- A.**  
**Sample solution:** Mix with three to four times its weight of water.  
**Acceptance criteria:** It forms a smooth magma. The clear supernatant from the magma is alkaline to litmus.
- B. [IDENTIFICATION TESTS—GENERAL, Calcium\(191\)](#)**  
**Sample solution:** Mix 1 g with 20 mL of water, and add sufficient 6 N acetic acid to effect the solution.  
**Acceptance criteria:** Meets the requirements

**ASSAY**

- PROCEDURE**  
**Sample solution:** To 1.5 g of Calcium Hydroxide in a beaker, gradually add 30 mL of 3 N hydrochloric acid. When dissolved, transfer the solution to a 500-mL volumetric flask, and rinse the beaker thoroughly, adding the rinsings to the flask. Dilute with water to volume, and mix. Transfer 50 mL of the solution into a suitable container, and add 100 mL of water, 15 mL of 1 N sodium hydroxide, and 300 mg of hydroxy naphthol blue.  
**Titrimetric system**  
**Mode:** Direct titration  
**Titrant:** 0.05 M edetate disodium VS  
**Endpoint detection:** Visual  
**Analysis:** Titrate the *Sample solution* with *Titrant* to a blue endpoint. Each mL of *Titrant* is equivalent to 3.705 mg of calcium hydroxide [Ca(OH)<sub>2</sub>].  
**Acceptance criteria:** 95.0%–100.5%

**IMPURITIES**

- LIMIT OF MAGNESIUM AND ALKALI SALTS**  
**Sample solution:** Dissolve 0.50 g in a mixture of 30 mL of water and 10 mL of 3 N hydrochloric acid.  
**Analysis:** Heat the solution, and boil for 1 min. Rapidly add 40 mL of oxalic acid TS, and stir vigorously until precipitation is well established. Add immediately to the warm mixture 2 drops of methyl red TS and then 6 N ammonium hydroxide, dropwise, until the mixture is just alkaline. Cool to room temperature, transfer to a 100-mL graduated cylinder, dilute with water to 100 mL, mix, and allow to stand for 4 h or overnight. Filter, and to 50 mL of the clear filtrate in a platinum dish add 0.5 mL of sulfuric acid, and evaporate the mixture on a steam bath to a small volume. Carefully heat over a free flame to dryness, and continue heating to complete decomposition and volatilization of ammonium salts. Finally, ignite the residue to constant weight.  
**Acceptance criteria:** NMT 12 mg (4.8%)
- LIMIT OF ACID-INSOLUBLE SUBSTANCES**  
**Sample solution:** Dissolve 2.0 g in 30 mL of 4 N hydrochloric acid, and heat to boiling.  
**Analysis:** Filter the mixture, wash the residue with hot water, and ignite.  
**Acceptance criteria:** 0.5%; the weight of the residue is NMT 10 mg.
- CARBONATE**  
**Sample solution:** Mix 2 g with 50 mL of water.  
**Analysis:** Add an excess of 3 N hydrochloric acid to the *Sample solution*.  
**Acceptance criteria:** The *Analysis* does not cause more than a slight effervescence.

**ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS**

- PACKAGING AND STORAGE:** Preserve in tight containers.

**Auxiliary Information** - Please [check for your question in the FAQs](#) before contacting USP.

Topic/Question	Contact	Expert Committee
CALCIUM HYDROXIDE	<a href="#">Documentary Standards Support</a>	SM32020 Small Molecules 3

**Chromatographic Database Information:** [Chromatographic Database](#)

**Most Recently Appeared In:**

Pharmacopeial Forum: Volume No. PF 27(6)

**Current DocID:** GUID-B666E61C-662A-4D8F-A04F-633B393D9804\_3\_en-US

**Previous DocID:** GUID-B666E61C-662A-4D8F-A04F-633B393D9804\_1\_en-US

**DOI:** [https://doi.org/10.31003/USPNF\\_M11710\\_03\\_01](https://doi.org/10.31003/USPNF_M11710_03_01)

**DOI ref:** [l5xwt](#)

OFFICIAL