SALVINORIN EXTRACTION

FOR DUMMIES®

A Reference for the Rest of Us!®

Daniel ?

Salvinorin A extraction for Dummies

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How to extract Salvinorin A from dry salvia divinorum leaves

The Basics

The active ingredient of the hallucinogenic herb Salvia divinorum was once very hard to isolate. Thanks to some hard working scientists, the process has been simplified to such an extent that we dummies can now make it.

This substance is extremely powerful and should be used only by the very experienced. Less that one milligram is enough to catapult some into a world of pure madness. You have been warned!

Salvia Divinorum

Warning

* Don't forget that the crystals obtained from this procedure are very powerful and dangerous.
* Use at your own risk .

The Equipment and Consumables

Dry salvia – the browner the better – one ounce (28g)

Acetone (LR grade or distilled hardware crap) - 1L is more than enough.

Isopropanol – 100ml is more than enough

Glasses, vials, coffee filters, funnel, etc. Plan ahead

How to Do it

Place the dry leaves in an oven at a temperature of 200F for 5 minutes to drive off any residual moisture.

Crush the leaves into small fragments with a size of 1/8 to 1/4 inch. DO NOT POWDER !! This is extremely important!

Put the crushed leaves in a glass or metal container

Place the acetone in the freezer (keep sealed as the switching of the thermostat found in fridges has caused many explosions of unsealed solvents). Also place the container with the crushed leaves in the freezer. Leave overnight.

Remove from freezer, and pour the cold acetone on the leaves. Make sure enough acetone is added to completely cover the leaves plus another 1/2 to 2 inches.

Credit for the method goes to Mr. Chris H. (Sphere) from Alaska.
Design and typing by :
The Salvia Christ

Swirl, cover and place back in the freezer for exactly 4 minutes. When the time is up, remove the container from the freezer and pour the acetone gently to another container , keeping the leaves back . Quickly pour more of the freezing acetone onto the leaves, once again covering by at least 1/2 inch. Swirl and place back in the freezer for another 4 minutes.

Pour out gently and repeat with the remaining freezing acetone, for the third and final time.

Notes!

It is very important to keep everything cold, by placing back in the freezer as quickly as possible.

Switch the freezer off at the mains when doing this, to avoid an explosion. Before switching back on ,vent the freezer compartment out to remove any residual vapors.

Lets get on with it!

You're only a Dummy if you think you are!

So now you have a large volume of acetone, containing between 90 – 99% of the salvinorin that was in the original leaves. If you have good quality leaves and you did not let it warm too much, very little chlorophyll and other nasties have been co-extracted

The tiny leaf fragments that are still in the acetone must now be removed. This is done by filtering through the coffee filter. Use a funnel which is not eaten by the acetone!

Well done champ, you know have a clear solution of salvinorin A in acetone.

The Evaporation

You need to safely remove the acetone and leave behind the crude salvinorin. The best way is to recycle the acetone by distillation. Dummies don't have such luxuries as a distillation setup so outside we go.

Work in a very well ventilated area, away from heaters, flames and sparks and never in the sun. Research has shown that light decomposes salvinorin solutions in acetone very quickly.

Get a bowl and place this in a large pot. Boil water in a kettle and pour some in the pot, being careful not to splash hot water into the bowl. Pour some of your extract in the bowl and allow the acetone to boil away. You will need to remove the bowl, empty the water and put hot water in the pot from time to time to keep the acetone boiling happily. As an aid to boiling, a clean long toothpick or some chips from a smashed ceramic cup or plate can be placed in the bowl.

Green Gunk

So, you have just evaporated off all of the acetone and you have some greenish gunk. These don't look like crystals you mutter! Don't fret you dummy, there is another step to go.

Chemistry has given us the technique of crystallization. By dissolving this gunk in hot alcohol and allowing the solution to cool, crystals of salvinorin grow out of the solution.

Crystals of Snow

Ok dumbo , get a small glass vial of 10 to 20 ml capacity and with a lid. Dissolve the green gunk back in a few mL of warm acetone and pour this into the vial. Once again immerse the vial in hot water to evaporate off the acetone completely. Now add 2.5 ml of isopropyl alcohol (isopropanol) to the vial and immerse the vial in hot water. Swirl until the gunk has all (mostly) dissolved. Cap the vial and put it aside. When cool, put in the fridge (not freezer). Wait for a few hours and you will be blessed with masses of tiny crystals. Remove the green liquid (use your brain if you have one you dummy) and rinse quickly with another 2.5 mL of pre-chilled isopropanol. Remove this green liquid, turn the vial upside down on tissues to drain the rest of the solvent, and finally dry using warm air from a hair drier (don't overheat as residual isopropanol will start dissolving the crystals).

Warning

These crystals are salvinorin A of very high purity (90-99%). If you do not have the proper equipment to weigh these crystals, do not use them. You only have yourself to blame should something go horribly wrong, dummy!!

Enjoy your crystals in a safe manner!