Burning Dollar Bill

Instructions

Materials:

Methanol

Dollar bill

Water

Steel beaker tongs

Set Up:

- 1. Soak a dollar bill in water for at least 10-15 minutes.
- 2. Under the hood, place an open beaker filled with methanol.

Demo Procedure:

- 1. Pull the wet dollar bill out with a pair of tongs.
- 2. Dip the dollar bill quickly in a container of methanol in front of your audience.
- 3. Open up the dollar bill and while holding the bill carefully with the tongs, touch the bottom of the bill quickly with a lighter.
- 4. The dollar bill will ignite and a blue flame is observed.
- 5. Once the methanol is burned off the dollar bill stays intact. The water in the dollar bill keeps the fiber from burning.