

Thermal Equilibrium Calculations

This sheet can help you practise how to determine the required calculation for thermal equilibrium problems. *Remember: Determine the objects which are losing energy and those which are gaining energy. The energy lost equals the energy gained.*

$$c_{\text{water}} = 4200 \text{ J/kgK} \quad c_{\text{ice}} = 2100 \text{ J/kgK} \quad c_{\text{copper}} = 390 \text{ J/kgK} \quad L_{f, \text{ice}} = 3.34 \times 10^5 \text{ J/kg}$$

- 1) What is the final temperature of 0.1 kg of ice at 0°C added to an insulated container filled with 4.5 kg of water at 20°C?
- 2) What is the final temperature of 10g of ice at -15°C added to a styrofoam cup filled with 220 ml of water at 32°C?
- 3) An unknown metal weighing 900 g at an initial temperature of 140°C is placed into an insulated container holding 3L of water at an initial temperature of 60°C. The water rose to 65°C. What is the specific heat capacity of the metal?
- 4) How much ice is needed to cool 150 ml of water from 60°C to 40°C if it is in a copper cup weighing 100g?

The **solutions** are on the next page. It is a better learning strategy to try the question before looking at the solution.

SOLUTIONS

1) What is the final temperature of 0.5 kg of ice at 0°C added to an insulated container filled with 4.5 kg of water at 20°C?

Heat loss of water = heat to melt ice + heat gained by melted ice

$$m_{\text{water}}c_{\text{water}}\Delta T = m_{\text{ice}}L + m_{\text{ice}}c_{\text{water}}\Delta T$$

$$4.5 * 4200 * (20 - T_F) = 0.1 * 3.34 * 10^5 + 0.1 * 4200 * (T_F - 0)$$

$$T_F = 17.8 \text{ } ^\circ\text{C}$$

2) What is the final temperature of 100g of ice at -15°C added to a styrofoam cup filled with 220 ml of water at 32°C?

Heat gained by ice + heat to melt ice + heat gained by melted ice = heat lost by water

$$m_{\text{ice}}c_{\text{ice}}\Delta T + m_{\text{ice}}L_f + m_{\text{ice}}c_{\text{water}}\Delta T = m_{\text{water}}c_{\text{water}}\Delta T$$

$$0.01 * 2100 * (0 - (-15)) + 0.01 * 3.34 * 10^5 + 0.01 * 4200 * T_F = 0.22 * 4200 * (32 - T_F)$$

$$T_F = 26.8 \text{ } ^\circ\text{C}$$

3) An unknown metal weighing 900g at an initial temperature of 140°C is placed into an insulated container holding 3L of water at an initial temperature of 60°C. The water rose to 65°C. What is the specific heat capacity of the metal?

Heat gained by water = heat lost by metal

$$m_{\text{water}}c_{\text{water}}\Delta T = m_{\text{metal}}c_{\text{metal}}\Delta T$$

$$3 * 4200 * (65 - 60) = 0.9 * c_{\text{metal}} * (140 - 65)$$

$$c_{\text{metal}} = 933 \text{ J kg}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$$

4) How much ice at 0 °C is needed to cool 150 ml of water from 60°C to 40 °C to if it is in a copper cup weighing 100g?

Heat to melt ice + heat gained by melted ice = heat lost by water + heat lost by cup

$$m_{\text{ice}}L_f + m_{\text{ice}}c_{\text{water}}\Delta T = m_{\text{water}}c_{\text{water}}\Delta T + m_{\text{copper}}c_{\text{copper}}\Delta T$$

$$m_{\text{ice}} * 3.34 * 10^5 + m_{\text{ice}} * 4200 * (40 - 0) = 0.15 * 4200 * (60 - 40) + 0.1 * 390 * (60 - 40)$$

$$m_{\text{ice}} = 0.027 \text{ kg}$$