

SNC 1D – Chemistry

Physical and Chemical Properties

A **physical property** is a description of a substance that may help identify it. We can use our senses to observe some physical properties, such as colour, brittleness, odour, lustre, clarity, taste, and state. Other physical properties can be observed with the help of tests and measurements.

A **chemical property** describes the behaviour of a substance as it becomes a new substance.

Physical or Chemical Property?

Description	Physical or Chemical?	How do you know?
Nitrogen is a gas.		
Methanol burns easily in air.		
Baking soda reacts with vinegar, producing carbon dioxide gas.		
Sulfur is yellow.		
An iron railing rusts.		
Wooden spoons are used to stir hot food.		
Juice crystals dissolve in water.		
A metal anchor sinks in water.		
Sandpaper is scratchy.		
Fishing lures use shiny metal to attract fish.		