



NEW DIRECTIONS
A R O M A T I C S

How to make a tincture using extracts

Powdered extracts are most easily added to formulations by first dissolving the extract in a mixture of alcohol and water and adding this tincture to your product. Not all extracts are completely soluble however so you may see some residue after it has been blended and if necessary, this can be removed using a filter. The MSDS information will indicate if an extract is only partially soluble. Vodka or another grain alcohol with little scent can be used and the water should be distilled.

Unlike herbal tinctures, there is no need to let the tincture sit and leech out the constituents of the plant material. This has already been done during the extraction process and the goal is to simply liquefy the powder so that it can be evenly blended into your product.

Normally, a 100ml tincture should be equivalent to 20g of the raw plant, so as long as you know how concentrated the extract is, it's a matter of a little simple math to determine how much extract to use. The concentration is given either by the Extract Ratio, or Herbal Strength information contained in the MSDS.

For example, our Burdock Root has an extract ratio of 4:1 meaning that 4kg of Burdock Root is used to produce 1 kg of extract. Since you want the 100ml tincture to contain the equivalent of 20g of the raw plant, you would add 5g of extract to the hydroalcoholic solution. The ratio of water and alcohol is not specified however and a general rule of thumb is that if you experience undue difficulty dissolving the powder, increase the percentage of alcohol.

If you prefer to work with imperial measurements, the same rules apply of course and you could say that a normal 4.6oz tincture should be equivalent to 1oz of raw plant material. In the case of Burdock Root, you would add 0.25oz of the extract to 4.6oz of liquid to meet the normal tincture strength.