Acid Cleaning Labware Procedure

Personal Protective Equipment: When preparing or using the acid bath long pants, closed toed shoes, lab coat, safety glasses, and gloves must be worn. Thick blue acid bath gloves can be worn over your purple gloves if your hand will be in close contact with the bath.

1. Prepare acid bath: 10% hydrochloric, or 10% nitric acid.
   • Add 9 parts Milli-Q water to bath container. Example: for a 20L acid bath, add 18L of water.
   • Add 1 part acid to bath container. Example: for a 20L acid bath, add 2L of acid

2. RINSE dirty bottles with water. Preferably do this before putting them in the Dirty Bottle Bin
   o If necessary, SCRUB with a brush to remove sediment

3. SUBMERGE bottles in the acid bath.
   o This means there should be NO AIR BUBBLES in the bottles (or as few as humanly possible). The acid can’t clean where it does not touch.

4. Let sit overnight. (Check individual procedures for times.)

5. Remove the bottles from the acid bath

6. RINSE 3x in Milli-Q water

7. Let dry

8. LABEL the bottles as they are drying with what they were rinsed in. Example: “Acid cleaned in 10% hydrochloric acid.”

9. Put the bottles away. LABEL the bag or shelf they are stored in as “Acid cleaned” with the type of acid they were cleaned in. Example: “Acid cleaned in 10% hydrochloric acid.”

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