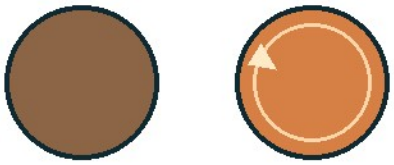
Shiny Coins With Kitchen Chemistry

How a mild acid cleans copper



dull shiny

YOU NEED

- a few dull copper coins
- a small bowl
- a quarter cup of vinegar
- a teaspoon of salt
- a paper towel

TRY IT

1. Stir the salt into the vinegar in the bowl.
2. Drop in the coins and wait about five minutes.
3. Take them out and rinse them well in water.
4. Compare them with a coin you did not clean.

WHAT IS HAPPENING

Dull copper coins are covered by a thin layer of copper compounds. Vinegar and salt react with it and dissolve it, showing the shiny copper underneath.

SAFETY FIRST

Use ordinary coins, never rare or valuable ones. Do not taste the liquid. Rinse and dry the coins, then wash your hands.

Never mix cleaning products, and never taste experiments.

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