

Basic lab equipment to get you started

You can start with simple stainless steel bowls (approx. 1.2 L) and stainless steel whisks. You see us using 'globe whisks' however these can be hard to source. Plain 8 wire stainless steel whisks are sufficient to get you started. Make sure all equipment is 316 grade stainless steel.

Be careful about using stick blenders – they can cut polymers and introduce a lot of air into your formulas, creating excess foam in products in small sample sizes; this is why you see me hand stir in small samples.

Cheap scales to get you started: Mini digital platform scales x 2:

- One that measures 500g to 0.01g resolution (accuracy)
- One that measures 2000g to 0.1g resolution (accuracy)



Initially, you can get by using pH strips (source from ebay) – but you should consider a pH meter like we show in our videos (and in the next few pages) as one of your FIRST important investments when you start creating formulas regularly.

Normal stove top is fine to use – its what I use! Induction and gas cook tops can introduce heat too fast and may burn materials. Water baths are fine to use if you have access to them.

More advanced lab equipment – setting up a more professional lab space!

We use and recommend the following equipment – make sure to source from your local lab supplier for best pricing based on these models/specifications. Please make sure whatever you purchase suits your needs and capacity; IPCS is unable to confirm these items will suit your specific requirements as individual needs will vary. This is, however, the equipment we use in our videos.

IKA Ultra Turrax T-25 + stand + base – not required during study with IPCS



IKA Propeller Stirrer – Eurostar 100 Digital + stand + base + R 1342 propeller blade (50mm diameter) – not required during study with IPCS



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pH Meter: Hanna HI 8424 – not required during study with IPCS but you may wish to purchase after completing your studies



Scales: for normal sample development – you may source another brand but check the specifications (accuracy and maximum weight) are as listed below

Or lab quality: Vibra AJ 1200CE; 1200g max in 0.01g resolution (accuracy)



Scales: only for colour development – these are only required if you are studying the Certificate in Colour Cosmetic Formulation course *extra resolution required*****

Lab quality essential for colour formulation: Vibra AJ 620CE; 620g max in 0.001g resolution (accuracy); you will still require regular 1200g capacity scales to 0.01g resolution (accuracy)

