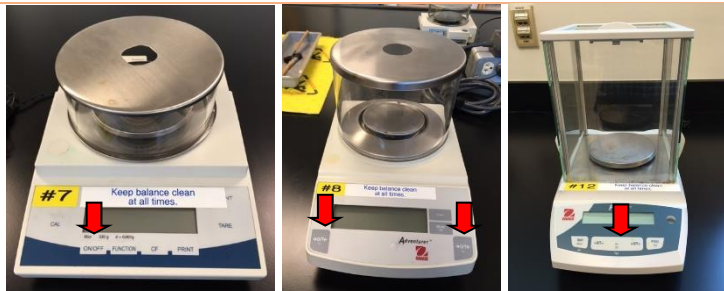


VALENCIA COLLEGE

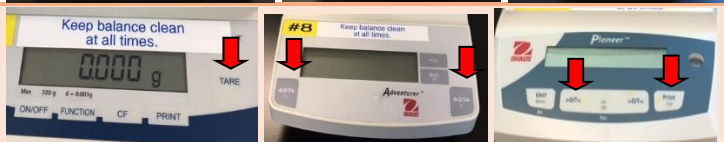
Chemistry

Lab Technique 2: Using a Balance

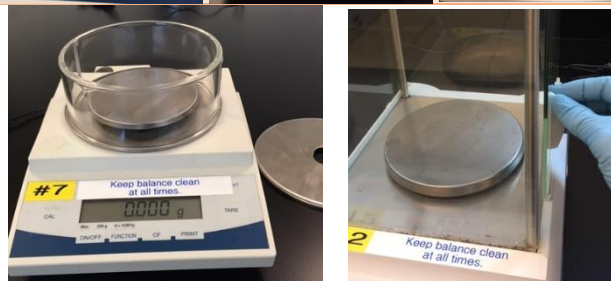
Turn on the balance.



Ensure the balance shows only zeroes across its readout. If it does not read only zeroes with nothing on the pan, press the tare or zero button.



Take the top off a top-loading balance (and the glass shield if necessary) or slide open the doors on an analytical balance.



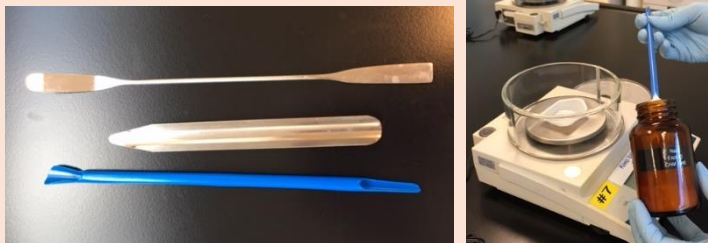
When weighing a chemical, a container should be used; never pour the chemical directly onto the balance pan. Options include (from left to right) weighing boat/dish (several sizes available), beaker and other glassware, or weighing paper.



In addition, should you **not need** the mass of your container, you can press the tare/zero button before adding the chemical to get an accurate mass of only your chemical (referred to as the tared mass).

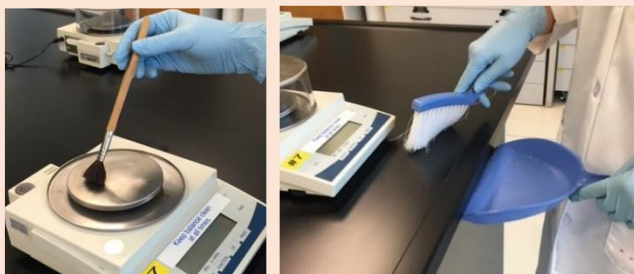


Use a spatula or scoopula to carefully transfer solid chemicals to the container.



Turn off balance when done.

If the balance has any spilled chemicals, turn it off and use a small brush to clean it. If the balance area has any spilled chemicals, clean that area immediately using the larger brush and dust pan.



Transfer the solid into the waste container.

