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## Method of application:

Remove only as many test sticks as are required, and reseal the container immediately after use. Do not touch the test paper zone. Dip test stick briefly into the test solution (pH 2–7). After 20 seconds, compare the test paper zone with the colour scale. In the presence of cobalt (II) ions the test paper turns green-blue.

## Interferences:

If the reaction colour does not appear on the colour scale, larger quantities of foreign ions interfere.

Reaction colour brown (copper (II)): the interference is eliminated by addition of a small amount of crystalline sodium thiosulphate to 5–10 ml of the test solution. Reaction colour grey (mercury (I)): the interference is eliminated by addition of a small amount of crystalline sodium chloride to 5–10 ml of the test solution.

Highly acidic solutions (pH < 2) must be buffered to a pH of 2–7 with crystalline sodium acetate. Concentrated cobalt (II) solutions must be diluted so that the cobalt (II) content comes within the limits of the colour scale. The dilution factor must be taken into account when calculating the cobalt (II) content.

## Storage:

Avoid exposing the sticks to sunlight and moisture. Store the container below +30 °C in a dry place.