



## Unwritten Rules of Chemistry Lab

1. If an experiment works, something has gone wrong.
2. When you don't know what you're doing, do it neatly.
3. Experiments must be reproduce-able, they should fail the same way each time.
4. First draw your curves, then plot your data.
5. Experience is directly proportional to equipment ruined.
6. Always keep a record of your data. It indicates that you have been working.
7. To do a lab really well, have your report done well in advance.
8. If you can't get the answer in the usual manner, start at the answer and derive the question.
9. In case of doubt, make it sound convincing.
10. Do not believe in miracles: rely on them.
11. Team work is essential, it allows you to blame someone else.
12. All unmarked beakers contain fast-acting, extremely toxic poisons.
13. No experiment is a complete failure. At least it can serve as a negative example.
14. Any delicate and expensive piece of glassware will break before any use can be made of it.

**Disregard these 14 principles of chemistry laboratory work at your own risk.**