

Essential Oil Dilution Chart, Calculator & Ratio Guide

Written by Christine on March 1, 2019.

Pure essential oils can be effective and efficient additions to your aromatherapy, home, and body care creations. However, these powerful plant extracts come with a great responsibility to exercise restraint. A single drop of essential oil contains an incredible concentration of herbal properties, so all this plant potential must be dispersed to levels that are safe for our bodies to process.

Diluting Essential Oils for Safety

As the popularity of essential oils has increased among natural-living and body care enthusiasts, so has the number of inquiries we receive about how to incorporate safe levels of essential oils into homemade creations. While many professional herbalists and natural product crafters have happily shared their insights on this topic in terms of parts, percentages, and ratios, these terms can be confusing and intimidating for those just starting out with their essential oil explorations. That's why we've assembled some simple guidelines and tools to get new users off to an encouraging (and safe!) start.

Dilution Ratios for Essential Oils

Essential oils are strong and must be diluted for safe use, whether you plan to use them on their own (usually in a neutral carrier oil) or as ingredients in a finished product such as a massage oil, lotion, or aroma spray. Whichever dilution method you choose, the essential oil content should only account for 0.5% to 2% of the total blend. This equates to 3 to 12 drops per ounce of finished product. For easier versions of all this math, check out our handy charts and calculators below!

Tips for Diluting Essential Oils

- Use proper measurement tools and be sure to accurately convert between different types of measurements.
- Not all essential oils are equal in potency. For example, cinnamon leaf essential oil is less potent and less aromatic than cinnamon bark essential oil, so it's important to do your research about the nature of the oils you want to use, especially when formulating your own recipes.
- Make sure your essential oil(s) are appropriate for the end use of your recipe. For example, a few essential oils react poorly when exposed to sunlight, so these would not be ideal choices to include in a hair serum recipe. Here again, getting to know the basic properties of the essential oils you want to use is highly recommended.



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CARRIER	1% ESSENTIAL OIL	2% ESSENTIAL OIL	
5 ML	1 DROP	2 DROPS	
10 ML	2 DROPS	4 DROPS	and the same
0.5 OZ.	3 DROPS	8 DROPS	
1 OZ.	6 DROPS	12 DROPS	
2 OZ.	12 DROPS	0.25 TSP.	
4 OZ.	0.25 TSP.	0.5 TSP.	
6 OZ.	36 DROPS	0.75 TSP.	
8 OZ.	0.5 TSP.	1 TSP.	
16 OZ.	1 TSP.	2 TSP.	
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To use our Essential Oil conversion calculator, visit: https://blog.mountainroseherbs.com/essential-oil-conversions