

Build a Mini Van de Graaff Generator Worksheet

Observations

Part A. Paper Discs

Part B. Tinsel

Part C. Fur

Post-Lab Questions *(Answer all questions on a separate sheet of paper.)*

Note: For all questions below assume the net charge on the dome of the mini Van de Graaff generator is negative.

Part A. Paper Discs

1. Did the paper discs have a positive or negative charge when in contact with the operating mini Van de Graaff generator? Explain.
2. What is the charge on the hand when held over the paper discs? Explain your answer.
3. Were the paper discs attracted to or repelled from the hand? Why do you think this occurred?

Part B. Tinsel

4. Did the tinsel have a positive or negative charge when in contact with the operating mini Van de Graaff generator? Explain.
5. Was the tinsel attracted to or repelled from the hand? Why do you think this occurred?

Part C. Fur

6. Did the fur have a positive or negative charge when in contact with the mini Van de Graaff generator? Explain.
7. What happened to the fur as it remained on the dome with the generator running? Explain why this happened.
8. Was the fur attracted to or repelled from the hand? Why do you think this occurred?