

# Alchemical Symbols



Alchemy employed a systematic set of symbols and technical terms, commonly recognized by laboratory technicians and natural philosophers alike, to indicate and record scientific operations, formulas, and ingredients.

Here is a sampling of some standard alchemical vocabulary. **Click any symbol below to learn more.**

## THE SEVEN PLANETARY METALS

The seven planets known in antiquity were linked to the seven known metals.

	Sun	Gold
	Moon	Silver
	Mercury	Quicksilver
	Venus	Copper
	Mars	Iron
	Jupiter	Tin
	Saturn	Lead

## THE ELEMENTS

The physical world was composed of four elements, while the heavens included a fifth.

	Aqua	Water
	Ignis	Fire
	Aer	Air
	Terra	Earth
	Quintessentia	Fifth Element

## TRIA PRIMA “The three first things”

The primary catalysts, which transmuted all other physical matter.

	Mercury
	Sulfur
	Salt

## LABORATORY INGREDIENTS

	Alkaline salt
	Alum
	Sal ammoniac (Ammonium chloride)
	Antimony
	Aqua vitae (Water of life)
	Arsenic
	Auripigmentum (Orpiment)
	Bismuth ore
	Borax
	Calx (Chalk)
	Cinnabar (Mercury sulfide)
	Saffron of Mars (Hematite)
	Gold
	Horse dung
	Lodestone
	Oil
	Quicklime
	Realgar
	Sal gemmae (rock salt)
	Silver
	Soap
	Sulfur
	Urine
	Verdigris
	Wax