



**INTERLABOR
BELP AG**

Interlabor Belp AG

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Sampling of drinking water for microbiological and chemical analysis

1. Containers

Microbiological analyses: Use clean, inhibitor-free, sterile and dry containers with a minimum capacity of 250 mL. Fill the sample container to the brim and seal it tightly immediately. If no sterile bottle is available, you may use an unopened bottle of unflavoured carbonated mineral water, emptied immediately before sampling. Special containers containing thiosulphate are required for the analysis of bathing water. These containers and sterile sample containers can be collected free of charge from INTERLABOR on request.

Routine chemical programme: Use plastic bottles (available from INTERLABOR or PET bottles). We require approximately 1 L of sample material.

Please note that other chemical analyses, such as TOC, PAH or PCB, require special sample containers, for example amber glass bottles with ground-glass stoppers. It is best to contact us in advance so that the appropriate container can be determined.

2. Sampling

Microbiological analyses: Do not touch the inside of the cap or the rim of the sample container with your hands or any objects. When sampling tap water, remove any rubber or plastic hoses and, if necessary, flame the tap. Then open the tap fully and allow the water to run until the temperature remains constant, for approximately 5–10 minutes. Do not adjust the tap again before sampling. Fill the sample container to the brim and seal it tightly immediately.

Chemical analyses: If metal residues from the pipes are suspected, take the sample in the morning before any water has flowed through the pipes (standing water). Collect the water directly without allowing it to run beforehand.

3. Transport

Keep samples intended for microbiological analysis cool and bring them to INTERLABOR as soon as possible. They must be analysed within 24 hours of sampling. If sent by post, the samples must be dispatched in good time by overnight express.

4. Packaging

Pack the sample containers so that they are protected against impact. We recommend keeping samples intended for microbiological analysis cool during transport (max. 5 °C). This can be achieved, for example, using cooling elements, which can be collected free of charge from INTERLABOR on request (place the cooling elements in your freezer for 24 hours before use). The samples must not be frozen.

5. Sample reception at INTERLABOR

Microbiological analyses: Mon–Fri, 7:30–12:00 and 13:30–15:00

Chemical analyses: Mon–Fri, 7:30–12:00 and 13:30–17:00

Other times only by prior arrangement.

Advance notification is required for 5 or more samples.