

Xanthan Gum Science of Everyday Life Chemistry

How do I get wet xanthan gum out of my sink disposal?

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2 Answers



Ben Griswold
Answered Jun 10, 2016

Xanthan gum is actually very pH stable so flushing with acids or an alkaline solution will not work, especially if it has clumped. - When in a clumped state it is a nearly impenetrable glob. The 2 things that I have found that actually will allow xanthan gum to release its "cling" to whatever it is clinging to is Alcohol and oil. While this answer may not help years later, it may help someone else with this problem. Wd-40 is actually very effective and may disperse better if your clog is actually down into the drain. If you put some rubbing alcohol in a spray bottle and sprayed down into the disposal that would also work. I have spent hours doing experiments with xanthan gum if that is any consolation.

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Kristina Kučanda, MSc in Chemistry (Organic and Inorganic), PhD student in (Nano)chemistry
Answered Oct 13, 2014 · Upvoted by Justin Dragna, PhD in chemistry from UT Austin · Author has **2.3k** answers and **3.6m** answer views

Drain cleaner should work. Or acid (household hydrochloric acid, solution of citric acid or even vinegar). Not at the same time.

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