

## Distilling Liquids

Place the liquid to be distilled in a test tube and add three or four boiling chips. Obtain a stopper assembly that has been fitted with a thermometer and a right-angle bend. Attach a rubber or plastic delivery tube to the right-angle bend. Clamp the test tube on a ring stand in an upright position at an appropriate height so that an alcohol or Bunsen burner will be about 7–8 cm from the bottom of the distilling tube.

Place a test tube in a large beaker filled about two-thirds full with an ice water mixture. Heat the liquid gently to maintain a constant level of boiling. This can be determined by the height of the bubbles in the boiling tube. When the liquid has been almost completely distilled (about 1 cm remains), remove the tube from the ice water bath, and then turn off the burner.

**Caution:** *If the burner is shut off or removed from beneath the distilling tube before the hose is removed from the collecting test tube, the cold liquid that has been collected is likely to be drawn into the hot distilling tube and crack it.*

