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# BARREL STORAGE SOLUTION

Amounts **per barrel** for the storage solution:

- 180g citric acid (drops the pH to around 3.0)
  - you can also use tartaric, but citric is cheaper
- 160g KMBS (enough for about 400ppm SO<sub>2</sub>)

## Procedure

- Fill the bbl half full with water
- Dissolve the citric (tartaric) in a gallon or so of water (warm water will help it dissolve easier)
  - add to the bbl and mix
- Continue filling the bbl until it's about 75-80% full.
- Dissolve the KMBS in a gallon or 2 of water (warm water will help it dissolve easier)
  - Add to the bbl and mix thoroughly. **Be careful because the SO<sub>2</sub> is volatile.**
- Fill the bbl with water and mix again
- Top up into the wood and bung it
  - Use an old bung or protect it with plastic wrap. The solution will degrade a silicon bung over time.

If you are doing more than one bbl, you can dissolve all the citric at once and all the KMBS at once (**don't mix the acid and KMBS together**) and add to the bbls volumetrically.

Top with water every 2-4 weeks. When you top the barrels, add enough water to bring the liquid up into the bung hole so it overflows when you put the bung back in.

This solution is good for 6 months or so. If you need to keep it in the bbl longer than that, dump it and refill the bbl with fresh solution.

When you are ready to use the bbl:

- empty and rinse it thoroughly with warm water
- fill it with fresh, plain water and soak overnight
- Dump and rinse thoroughly again with warm water
- Let it drain (several hours to overnight) and fill with wine
- The wine will pick up a small amount of SO<sub>2</sub> so you will want to check the SO<sub>2</sub> level after filling and before you make an SO<sub>2</sub> addition.