

- A bar of hot iron with a mass of 1.000 kg and a temperature of 100.00 °C is plunged into an insulated tank of water. The mass of water was 2.000 kg and its initial temperature was 25.00 °C. What will the temperature of the resulting system be when it has reached equilibrium? The specific heat capacities of water and iron are 4.184 J g⁻¹ K⁻¹ and 0.4498 J g⁻¹ K⁻¹, respectively.

The heat lost by the iron is equal to the heat gained by the water.

The heat change is related to the temperature change through $q = mC\Delta T$ where m is the mass of the substance and C is its specific heat capacity.

For the water,

$$\begin{aligned}q &= m_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} C_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} \Delta T_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} = (2.000 \times 10^3 \text{ g}) \times (4.184 \text{ J g}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}) \times ((T_f - 25.00) \text{ K}) \\ &= (8.368 \times 10^3 \text{ J K}^{-1}) \times ((T_f - 25.00) \text{ K})\end{aligned}$$

For the iron,

$$\begin{aligned}q &= m_{\text{Fe}} C_{\text{Fe}} \Delta T_{\text{Fe}} = (1.000 \times 10^3 \text{ g}) \times (0.4498 \text{ J g}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}) \times ((T_f - 100.00) \text{ K}) \\ &= (0.4498 \times 10^3 \text{ J K}^{-1}) \times ((T_f - 100.00) \text{ K})\end{aligned}$$

Hence, as $q_{\text{water}} = -q_{\text{iron}}$:

$$(8.368 \times 10^3 \text{ J K}^{-1}) \times ((T_f - 25.00) \text{ K}) = -(0.4498 \times 10^3 \text{ J K}^{-1}) \times ((T_f - 100.00) \text{ K})$$

$$T_f = 28.83 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$$

Answer: **28.83 °C**