

The Chemistry of Cyanotype

Reagents



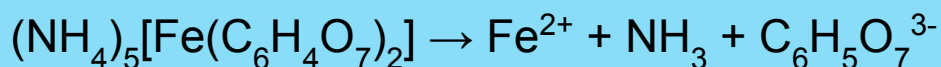
Ferric ammonium citrate
 $(\text{NH}_4)_5[\text{Fe}(\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{O}_7)_2]$



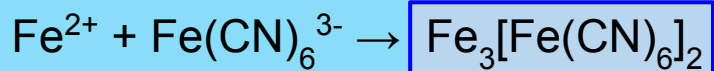
Potassium ferricyanide
 $\text{K}_3[\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_6]$

When mixed together and exposed to UV light, 2 chemical reactions occur:

- 1 The Fe^{3+} ions in ferric ammonium citrate gain an electron and become Fe^{2+}



- 2 The Fe^{2+} ions react with the ferricyanide ions



The reaction produces **prussian blue**, a pigment that dyes the paper blue