

AA Experimental Hints

If you see an orange or purple flame instead of a blue or white acetylene/air flame, you probably have sodium (orange) or potassium (purple) in the system (burner head, spray chamber, or sample-uptake tube),

- take off the burner head and rinse with deionized water,
- pour about 200–300-mL deionized water into spray chamber, or
- run more water into sample introduction system with flame on.

If the flame appears to have “holes” in it at the top of the burner head,

- turn off the flame and run the thin, metal piece that comes with the AA in the slot.

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