

Procedure

1. Pour about 3 parts potassium nitrate to 2 parts sugar into the skillet (5:3 ratio is also good). Measurements don't need to be exact, but you want more KNO_3 than sugar. For example, you can use 1-1/2 cups KNO_3 and 1 cup sugar. If you use equal amounts of KNO_3 and sugar, your smoke bomb will be harder to light and will burn more slowly. As you approach the 5:3 KNO_3 sugar ratio, you get a smoke bomb that burns more quickly.

2. Apply low heat to the pan. Stir the mixture with a spoon using long strokes. If you see the grains of sugar starting to melt along the edges where you are stirring, remove the pan from the heat and reduce the temperature before continuing.