

Synthesis of Tetraphenylcyclopentadienone
Organic Syntheses, Coll. Vol. 23, p. 92 (1943)

Combine 1 g of [benzil](#), 1 g of [1,3-diphenyl-2-propanone](#), and 8 ml of [ethanol](#) in a 50-ml round bottom flask. Equip the flask with a reflux condenser, add a magnetic stir bar, and heat the solution to boil to ensure all solids have dissolved. Then, add 2 mL of 4 M [potassium hydroxide](#) in [ethanol](#) slowly in two portions through the condenser. Reflux for 20 minutes and then cool to 0° in an ice bath. The dark crystalline product is collected by suction filtration, and washed with three 5-ml. portions of 95% [ethanol](#). The product melts at 218–220°.

