

Is formic acid compatible with borosilicate glass - FAQ

Yes, formic acid is generally compatible with borosilicate glass.

There are two aspects that one needs to be mindful of when storing formic acid in glass vials or glass inserts:

1. Formic acid gradually decomposes to carbon monoxide (CO) and water, building up pressure inside the container. The warmer the solution the faster the process. Therefore, formic acid is typically supplied in plastic bottles and is usually refrigerated.
2. Universal to all solutions stored in glass, is leaching alkali metals, mainly sodium, boron and silicic acids from the surface of the glass containment into the stored solution.