

# SENSORY@HOME: VANILLA

We've all tasted vanilla. But how well do we know it? Learn how vanilla enhances some of our favorite foods and beverages in this quick and easy activity you can do with items in your home kitchen. Flavor fun for everyone!

unflavored and unsweetened



Vanilla Extract

Table Sugar

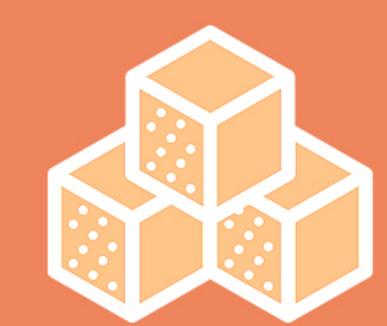
Milk\*





1 cup







### Vanilla+Water

#### **Aroma vs. Flavor**

To establish your sensory baseline for vanilla, first evaluate it in a pure water solution. Smell, then take a sip. Does the aroma match the flavor? What notes do you perceive?



1/4 teaspoon

## Vanilla+Water+Sugar

#### **Sweetness Perception**

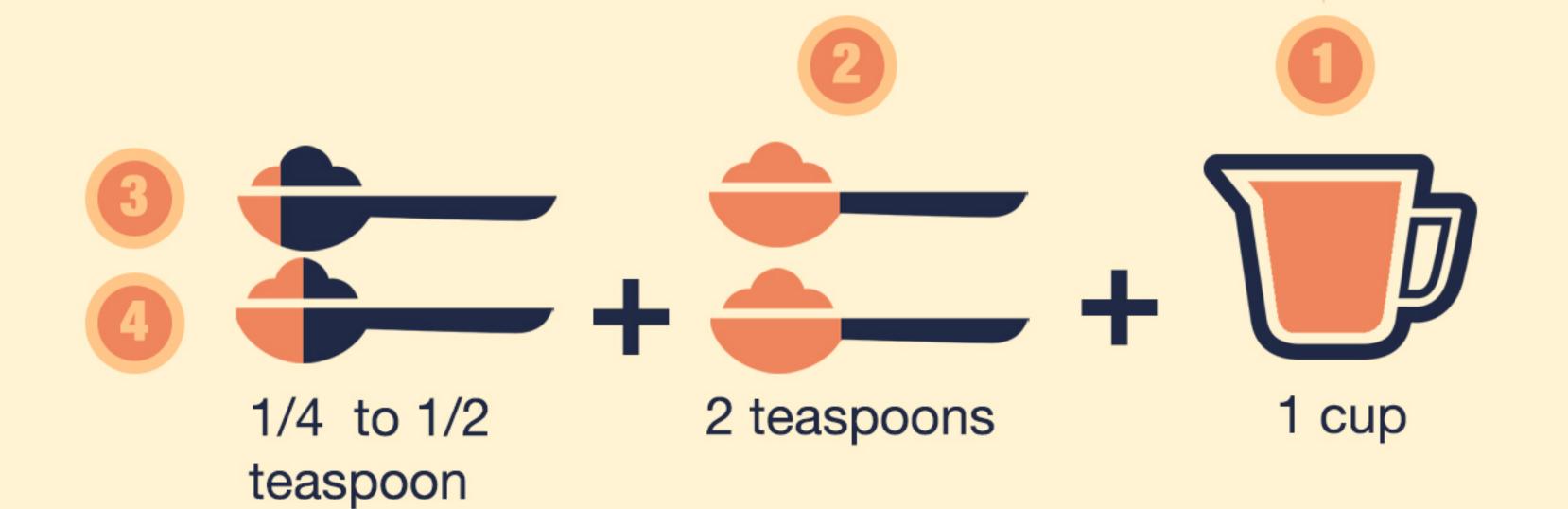
Vanilla makes sweet things taste even sweeter! Before adding the vanilla to the sugar and water solution, take a quick taste. Now, add the vanilla and taste again. Did your perception change?



### Vanilla+Milk+Sugar

### **Creamy Perception**

Vanilla enhances creamy flavor and texture. Taste the sugar and milk solution first...then add the vanilla. Compare a small dose (1/4 tsp) to a larger dose (1/2 tsp). Which one seems smoother?



### What's the difference?

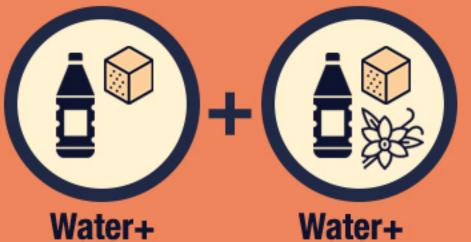
Taste these solutions together to discover how vanilla flavor evolves in each base - and on your palate!

#### Sweet taste brings out vanilla's flavor



Water+ **Vanilla** Vanilla+ Sugar

#### Vanilla increases intensity of sweet taste



Sugar

Water+ Vanilla+

#### Vanilla enhances creamy flavor and smoothness



Milk+ Sugar

Milk+ Vanilla+ Sugar