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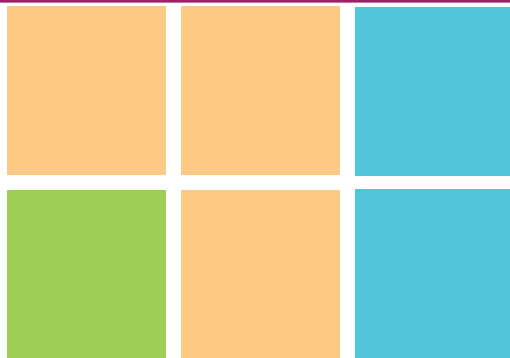
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# What is an Atom?



Painting of Democritus

People were thinking about atoms as early as 370 B.C.! A philosopher named Democritus believed that there must be an unbreakable particle that makes up all things. Not everyone agreed with him.

The word “atom” comes from the Greek word *atomos*, which means “indivisible.” This was the name Democritus gave to his theoretical particle.

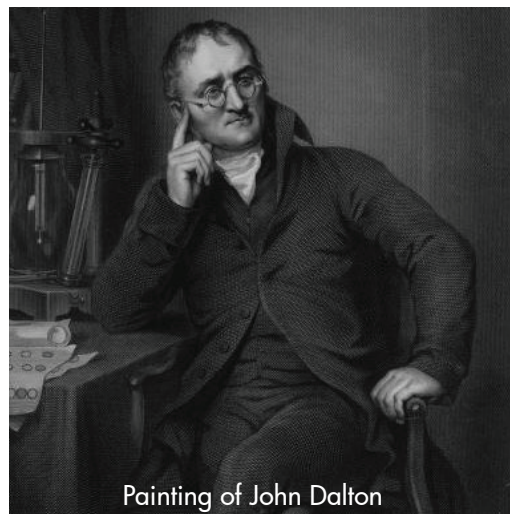
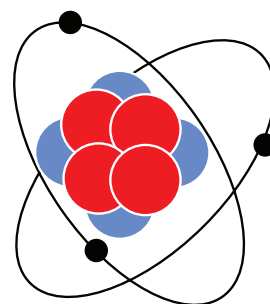
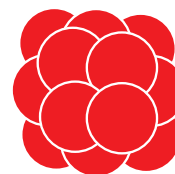
In the 1800s scientists knew that there were certain substances, which we now call elements, that cannot be broken down into anything simpler.

Then, a scientist named John Dalton discovered that all elements are made up of tiny particles called atoms.

As it turns out, atoms can also be broken down into smaller pieces. However, if you divide an atom of hydrogen, it won't be hydrogen any more.

This means that an atom is the smallest particle of a substance that has the same qualities of that substance.

Atoms are also made up of even smaller particles. These are known as *sub-atomic particles*, or protons, neutrons and electrons.



Painting of John Dalton

# Diagram of an Atom



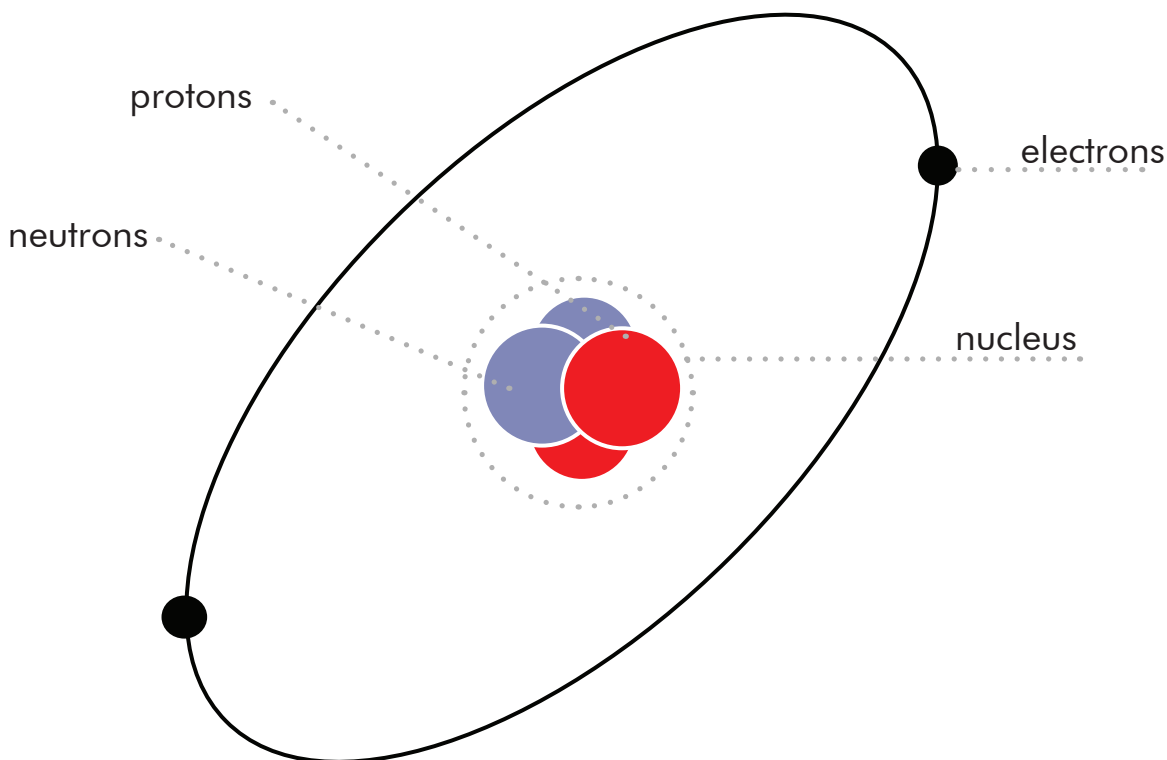
Protons : have a positive electrical charge.

Electrons : have a negative electrical charge.

Neutrons : are neutral.

Nucleus : is at the center of the atom. It is where the protons and neutrons are. The electrons swirl around the nucleus. Most of the atom's mass is in the nucleus.

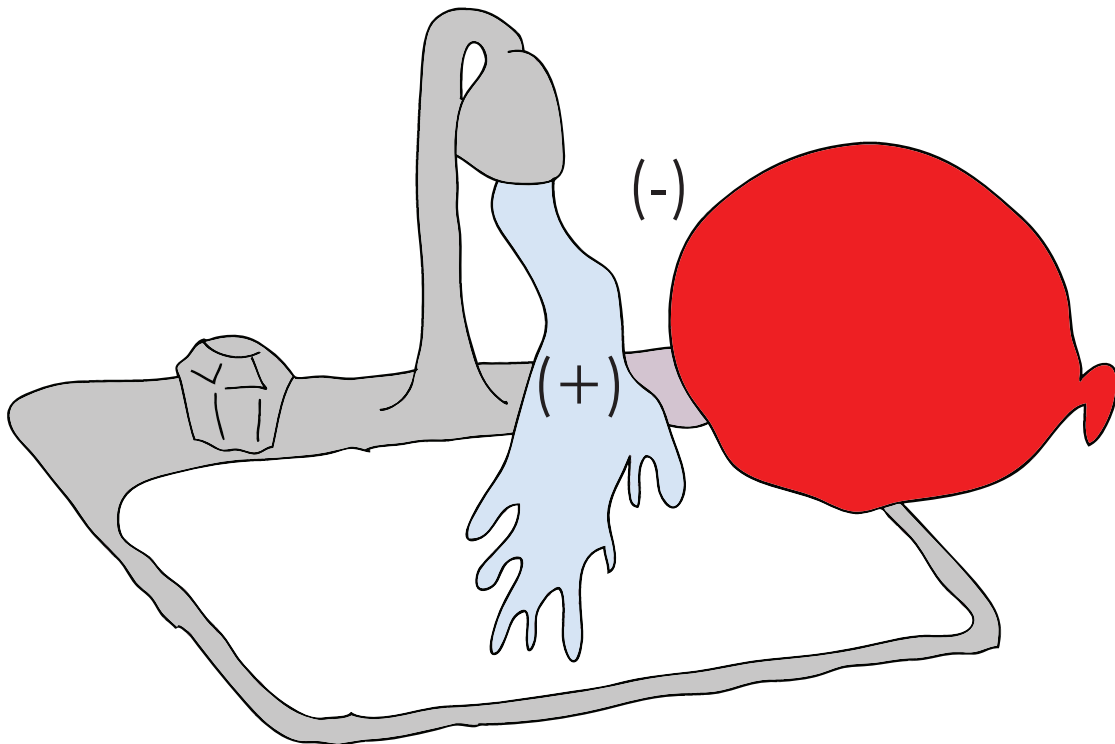
## Diagram of a Helium Atom



Protons and electrons are attracted to each other, but protons repel protons and electrons repel electrons. All atoms have an equal number of protons and electrons. If an atom loses or gains an electron, then it becomes an ion. An ion is an electrically charged atom.

# Try This

1. Get a balloon and rub it on your hair or clothes. The electrons from your hair or clothes will attach to the balloon and give it a negative (-) charge.
2. When the balloon is near the water the electrons on the negatively charged balloon move away from it. What is left is a positive(+) area of water near the balloon.
3. The positively-charged area of water and the negatively-charged balloon attract!

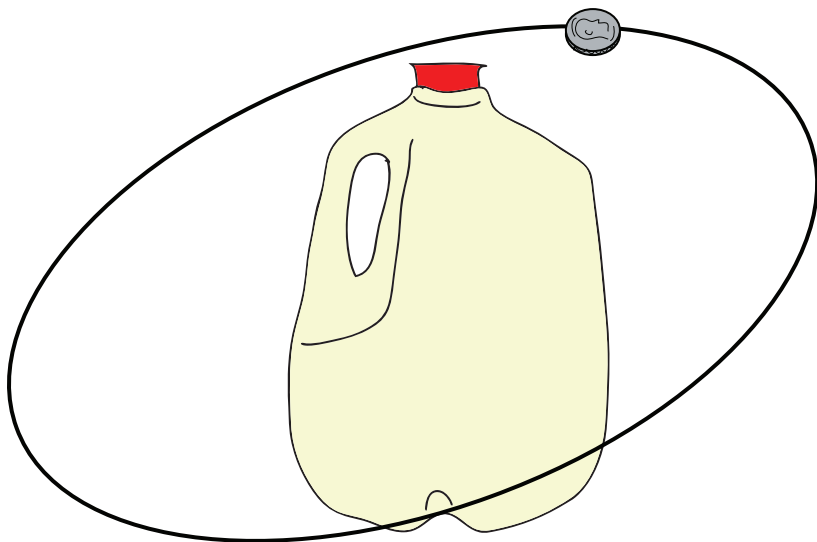


# Sizing Up Atoms

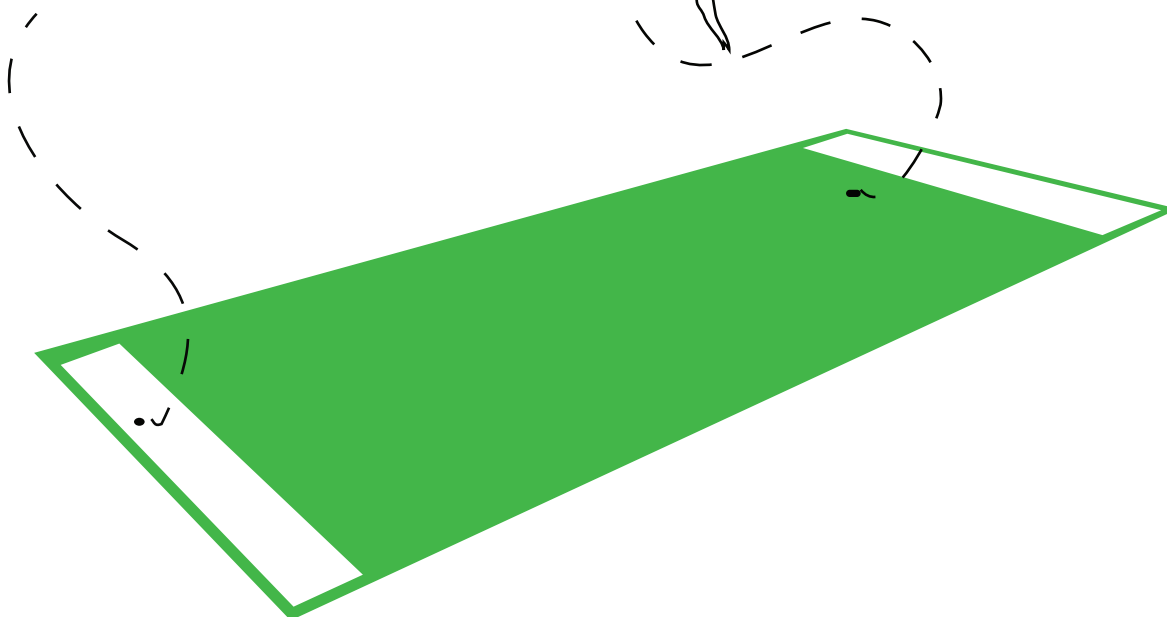
An atom is so small that about one million can fit along the width of your hair.

If an electron weighed the same as a dime, a proton would weigh the same as a gallon of milk!

If an atom was magnified to the size of a flea, the orbit of its electrons would be a football field away.



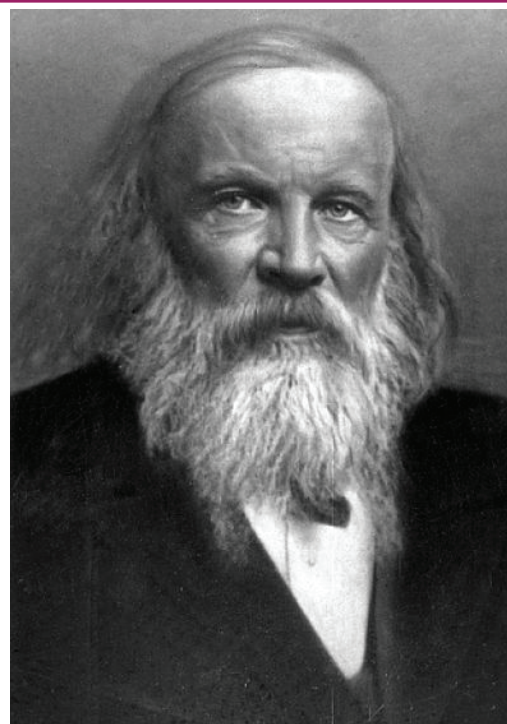
electron



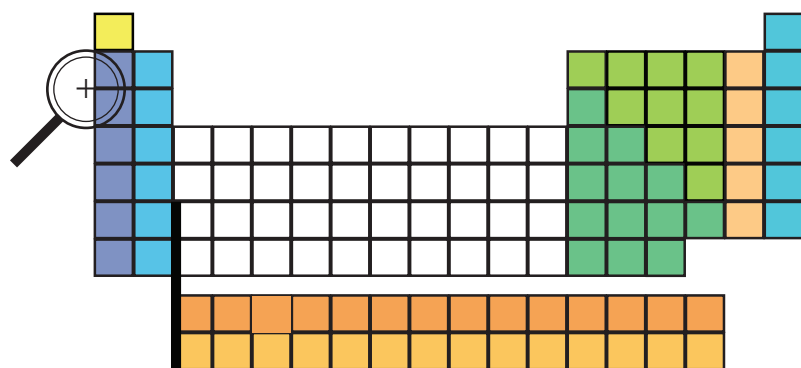
# Discovering the Periodic Table

By the late 1800s scientists had discovered and named most of the elements, but they did not understand the elements or their behavior. An important discovery by Russian chemist Dmitri Mendeleev showed that when you arrange the elements in rows and columns you can see the similarities between them. His discovery proved that the elements repeat certain characteristics at regular intervals, or periodically.

Example: look at the far left column of the table. Lithium, sodium and potassium line up vertically, and they are all very similar metals. They are soft, low in density and solid at room temperature. They also have very similar reactions with other substances.



Photograph of Dmitri Mendeleev



3 6.941 Li Lithium
11 22.98977 Na Sodium
19 39.0983 K Potassium

# Periodic Table of Elements



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Atomic Number  
Atomic Mass  
Symbol  
Name

1  
1.00794  
H  
Hydrogen

Alkali Metals

Alkaline Earth Metals

Transition Metals

Metalloids

Non-Metals

Halogens

Noble Gases

Lanthanides  
Actinides

1 1.00794 H Hydrogen	2 4.002602 He Helium																																
3 6.941 Li Lithium	4 9.012182 Be Beryllium	5 10.811 B Boron	6 12.0107 C Carbon	7 14.0067 N Nitrogen	8 15.9994 O Oxygen	9 18.99840 F Fluorine	10 20.1797 Ne Neon																										
11 22.98977 Na Sodium	12 24.3050 Mg Magnesium	13 26.98154 Al Aluminum	14 28.0855 Si Silicon	15 30.97376 P Phosphorus	16 32.065 S Sulfur	17 35.453 Cl Chlorine	18 39.948 Ar Argon																										
19 39.0983 K Potassium	20 40.078 Ca Calcium	21 44.9559 Sc Scandium	22 47.867 Ti Titanium	23 50.9415 V Vanadium	24 51.9961 Cr Chromium	25 54.938 Mn Manganese	26 55.845 Fe Iron	27 58.9332 Co Cobalt	28 58.6934 Ni Nickel	29 63.546 Cu Copper	30 65.38 Zn Zinc	31 69.723 Ga Gallium	32 72.64 Ge Germanium	33 74.9216 As Arsenic	34 78.96 Se Selenium	35 79.904 Br Bromine	36 83.798 Kr Krypton																
37 85.4678 Rb Rubidium	38 87.62 Sr Strontium	39 88.9059 Y Yttrium	40 91.224 Zr Zirconium	41 92.9064 Nb Niobium	42 95.96 Mo Molybdenum	43 (97.9072) Tc Technetium	44 101.07 Ru Ruthenium	45 102.9055 Rh Rhodium	46 106.42 Pd Palladium	47 107.8682 Ag Silver	48 112.411 Cd Cadmium	49 114.818 In Indium	50 118.710 Sn Tin	51 121.760 Sb Antimony	52 127.60 Te Tellurium	53 126.9045 I Iodine	54 131.293 Xe Xenon																
55 132.9055 Cs Cesium	56 137.327 Ba Barium	57 174.9668 Lu Lutetium	58 178.49 Hf Hafnium	59 180.9479 Ta Tantalum	60 183.84 W Tungsten	61 186.207 Re Rhenium	62 190.23 Os Osmium	63 192.217 Ir Iridium	64 195.084 Pt Platinum	65 196.9666 Au Gold	66 200.59 Hg Mercury	67 204.3833 Tl Thallium	68 207.2 Pb Lead	69 209.9804 Bi Bismuth	70 208.982 Po Polonium	71 209.987 At Astatine	72 222.0176 Rn Radon																
87 (223) Fr Francium	88 (226) Ra Radium	89 (227) Ac Actinium	90 (232) Th Thorium	91 (231) Pa Protactinium	92 (238) U Uranium	93 (237) Np Neptunium	94 (244) Pu Plutonium	95 (243) Am Americium	96 (247) Cm Curium	97 (247) Bk Berkelium	98 (251) Cf Californium	99 (252) Es Einsteinium	100 (257) Fm Fermium	101 (258) Md Mendelevium	102 (259) No Nobelium																		

57 138.9055 La Lanthanum	58 140.1116 Ce Cerium	59 140.9077 Pr Praseodymium	60 144.242 Nd Neodymium	61 (145) Pm Promethium	62 150.36 Sm Samarium	63 151.964 Eu Europium	64 157.25 Gd Gadolinium	65 158.9254 Tb Terbium	66 162.5 Dy Dysprosium	67 164.9303 Ho Holmium	68 167.259 Er Erbium	69 168.9342 Tm Thulium	70 173.054 Yb Ytterbium
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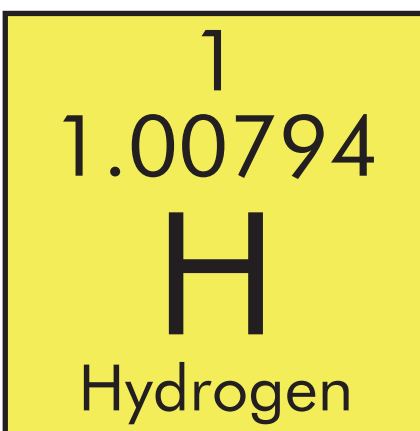
# How to Read the Periodic Table

The periodic table is a graphic representation of all the known elements. It is designed to give as much important information as possible in as little space as possible and to show the relationships between the elements.

## How to Read the Hydrogen Atom

**Atomic Mass**  
The average mass of the atoms in the element

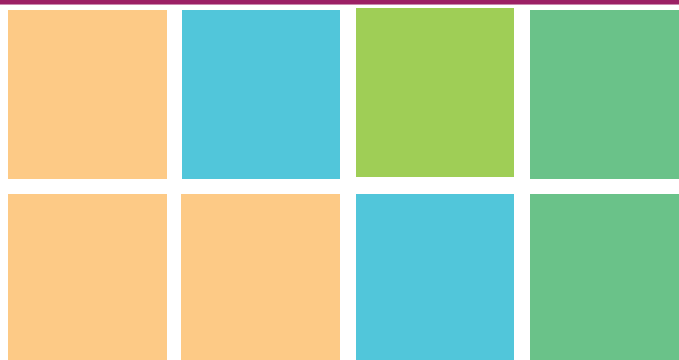
**Name**  
Usually derived from a Greek or Latin root



**Atomic Number**  
The number of protons in the nucleus

**Symbol**  
The one or two letter abbreviation for the element

# Discovering the Atom

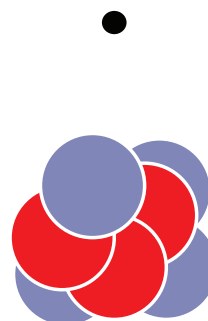


Mendeleev's idea of what Lithium looked like

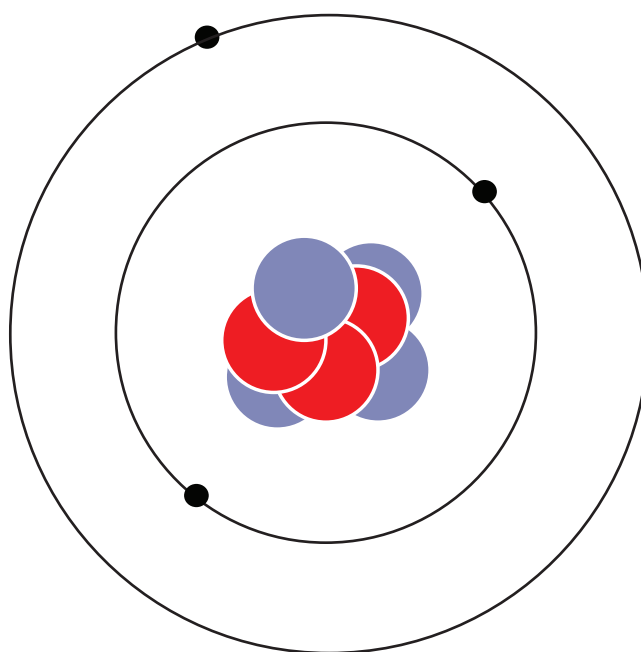
In the 1920s a Danish scientist named Niels Bohr expanded our understanding of Mendeleev's Periodic Table. He believed that there was one reason why elements had distinctive properties and could combine with other elements in distinct ways – the number of electrons in an atom of the element.

Scientists already knew that the atoms of each element have a certain number of electrons. They assigned each element a number, which reflected the number of electrons and protons in that element's atom.

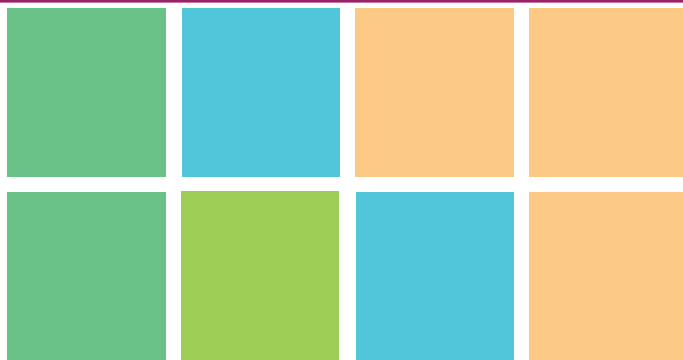
Bohr took that idea one step further. He said that the electrons arranged themselves in "shells," or energy levels around the nucleus. He also believed these shells had a pattern.



Bohr's idea of what Lithium looked like

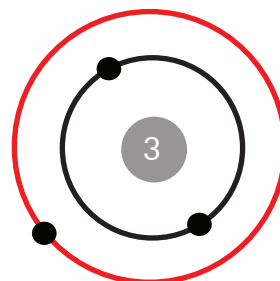


# Discovering the Atom

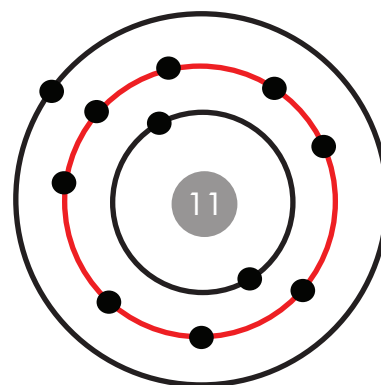


We can see an example of Bohr's pattern by looking at atoms of lithium, sodium and potassium, which line up vertically on the periodic table.

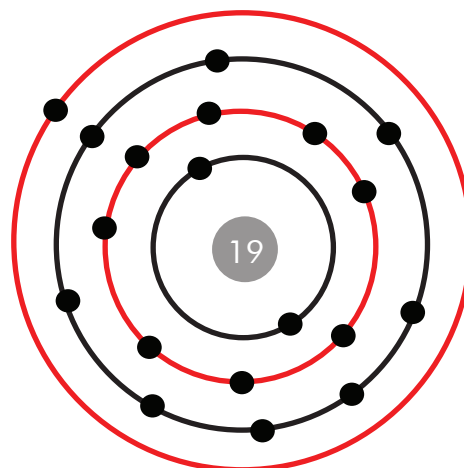
Element 3 Lithium  
shell 1: 2 electrons  
shell 2: 1 electron



Element 11 Sodium  
shell 1: 2 electrons  
shell 2: 8 electrons  
shell 3: 1 electron



Element 19 Potassium  
shell 1: 2 electrons  
shell 2: 8 electrons  
shell 3: 8 electrons  
shell 4: 1 electron



What do you notice about this pattern?

All the elements have just one electron in their outermost shell. All the elements have two electrons in their inner most shells.

Bohr thought that the electrons in the outermost shell were the ones that determined the properties of the atom.

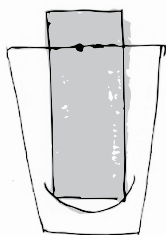


# Metals & Non-Metals

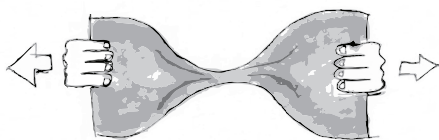
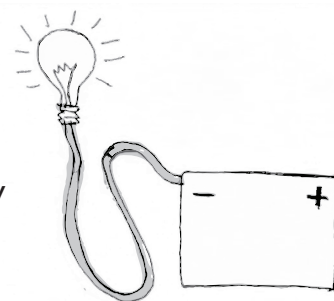
*Answers:*

*The Properties of Metals*

Most metals are solid at room temperature.

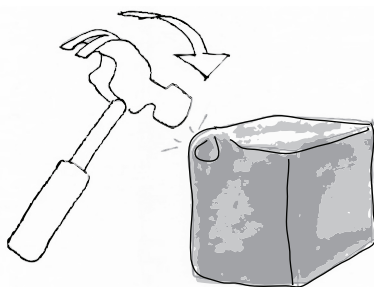
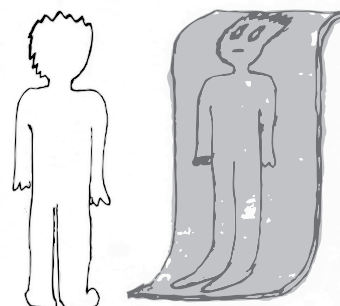


Metals are conductive. This means that electricity and heat can travel through them very easily. Some metals are better conductors than others.



Metals are ductile. This means that they can be stretched—that's how we can make wires!

Metals are shiny and often reflective.



Metals are malleable. This means that they can be bent and molded into different shapes.

# Quiz: Name That Element



Use the periodic table of the elements to name each element below.

#23: \_\_\_\_\_

#14: \_\_\_\_\_

#83: \_\_\_\_\_

Mn: \_\_\_\_\_

H: \_\_\_\_\_

Ne: \_\_\_\_\_

How many protons does  
aluminum have? \_\_\_\_\_

Which element has 47 protons? \_\_\_\_\_

Some of the element abbreviations are based on the Latin names of the element. For example, Fe is short for ferrum, Cu is short for cuprum, Ag is short for argentum and Au is short for aurum. Use the table to find out the English names of these elements.

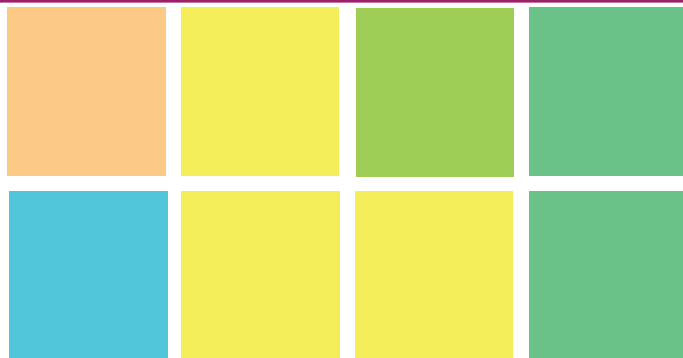
Ferrum : \_\_\_\_\_

Cuprum: \_\_\_\_\_

Argentum: \_\_\_\_\_

Aurum: \_\_\_\_\_

# Molecules & Compounds



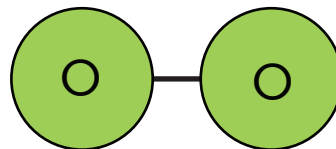
Atoms are the tiny building blocks that make up all matter. Individually, they aren't much good. When atoms join together, they are called *molecules*.

For example, the oxygen we breathe is not single atoms of oxygen; they're actually combined molecules of two oxygen atoms.

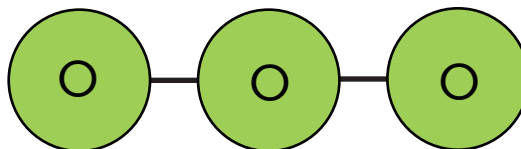
Add one more oxygen atom to the  $O^2$  molecule, and you have ozone, or  $O^3$ .

When molecules of different elements join together, they are called *compounds*. One compound that you may already know is  $H^2O$ , the chemical compound for water.

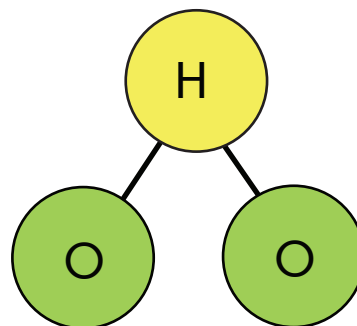
Breathable Oxygen Molecule



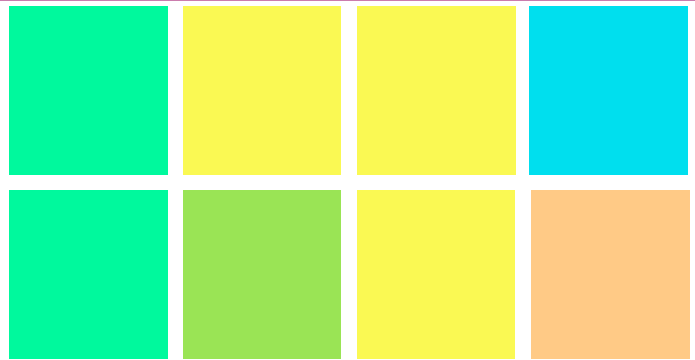
Ozone Molecule



Water Molecule



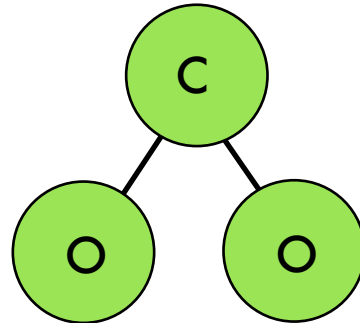
# Molecules & Compounds



Name any other chemical compounds that you know, and draw their diagrams below.

To draw a diagram use circles with the elements symbols in them and use lines to show where the elements attach to become a molecule.

Carbon Dioxide Molecule  $\text{CO}_2$



# Physical Changes

# Chemical Changes

All matter changes. All substances can undergo a *physical change*, meaning that the appearance changes, but the chemical makeup of the substance remains the same. All substances can also undergo a *chemical change*, meaning that the atoms and molecules of the substance is being changed. Though all the original atoms are still there, the molecules will have changed into something different. Think of different examples of each and write them in their column.

*ice melting*

*burning a piece of wood*

*saw a piece of wood in half*

*metal rusting*

# Atom Structures

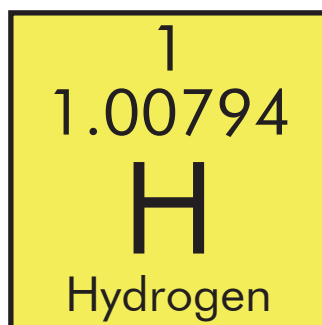
The number of neutrons in an element is not listed anywhere on the periodic table. However, it is not hard to figure out.

The atomic mass of an element is the average of all naturally occurring isotopes. Since electrons weigh almost nothing compared to protons and neutrons (which weigh the same) the atomic mass can be assumed to be the weight of all the protons and neutrons in an atom. The weight of a proton and neutron in all elements is one.

From this all we have to do is round the atomic mass of each element to the nearest whole number and subtract the atomic number (the number of protons in the element) and we find the number of neutrons.

For example: Hydrogen's atomic number is 1, its atomic weight is 1.00794, which we round down to 1.  $1 - 1 = 0$ . Hydrogen has no neutrons.

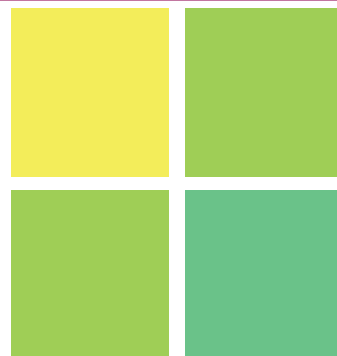
Use your math skills to answer the questions on the following page.



$$1 \text{ (rounded atomic mass)} - 1 \text{ (atomic number)} = 0 \text{ neutrons}$$

# Atom Structures

# Problems Sheet



How many neutrons are in carbon?

Name the element that has 8 neutrons.

How many neutrons does gold have?

If an element's atomic mass is 70 and it has 39 neutrons, how many protons does it have? What element is this?

How many neutrons does radon have?

Name three elements that have the same amount of neutrons and protons.

# Flash Cards

Here are some elements  
to practice.

1  
1.00794

H  
Hydrogen

2  
4.002602

He  
Helium

3  
6.941

Li  
Lithium

4  
9.012182

Be  
Beryllium

5  
10.811

B  
Boron

6  
12.0107

C  
Carbon

7  
14.0067

N  
Nitrogen

8  
15.9994

O  
Oxygen

9  
18.99840

**F**  
Flourine

10  
20.1797

**Ne**  
Neon

11  
22.98977

**Na**  
Sodium

12  
24.3050

**Mg**  
Magnesium

13  
26.98154

**Al**  
Aluminum

14  
28.0855

**Si**  
Silicon

15  
30.97376

**P**  
Phosphorus

16  
32.065

**S**  
Sulfur

17  
35.453

**Cl**  
Chlorine

18  
39.948

**Ar**  
Argon

19  
39.0983

**K**  
Potassium

20  
40.078

**Ca**  
Calcium

22  
47.867

**Ti**  
Titanium

26  
55.845

**Fe**  
Iron

27  
58.9332

**Co**  
Cobalt

28  
58.6934

**Ni**  
Nickel

29  
63.546

**Cu**  
Copper

30  
65.38

**Zn**  
Zinc

# New

## Elements

These elements have all been officially added to the Periodic Table of Elements since 2012. Ununtrium, Ununpentium, Ununseptium, and Ununoctium are the newest of these six and do not yet have official names. Their current names stand for their number – un (from Latin for one), pent (from Greek for five). Un-un-pent-ium has an atomic number of one-one-five (115). All of these elements are considered “artificial”, since they have only occurred in laboratory experiments, and have not been found in nature.

113  
284

Uut

Ununtrium

114  
289

Fl

Flerovium

115  
288

Uup

Ununpentium

116  
292

Lv

Livermorium

117  
294

Uus

Ununseptium

118  
294

Uuo

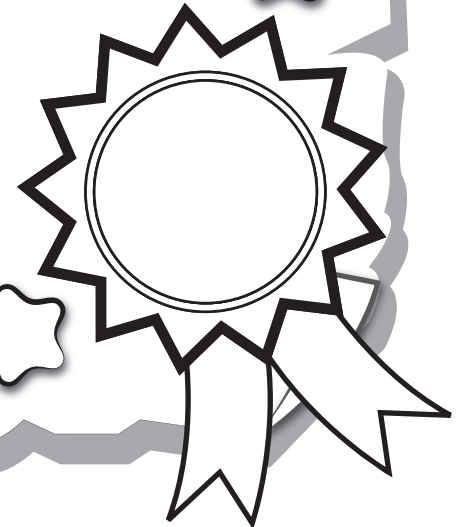
Ununoctium



Great job!

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# Answer Sheets

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## **It's Elemental**

Quiz: Name That Element

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# Quiz: Name That Element

Use the periodic table of the elements to name each element below.

#23: vanadium

#14: silicon

#83: bismuth

Mn: manganese

H: hydrogen

Ne: neon

How many protons does  
aluminum have?

Aluminum has 13 protons.

Which element has 47 protons?

Silver has 47 protons.

Some of the element abbreviations are based on the Latin names of the element. For example, Fe is short for ferrum, Cu is short for cuprum, Ag is short for argentum and Au is short for aurum. Use the table to find out the English names of these elements.

Ferrum : iron

Cuprum: copper

Argentum: silver

Aurum: gold