

Atoms, Ions, and Compounds

Part I: A. Electron Dot Structures

When atoms of metals in groups 1, 2, or 3 react with atoms of nonmetals in groups 15, 16, and 17, the metals lose electrons and the nonmetals gain electrons in their valence shells. We can predict the number of electrons lost or gained by analyzing the electron dot structures of the atoms. In an electron dot structure, the valence electrons are represented as dots around the symbol of the atom. For example, aluminum, electron arrangement 2-8-3, has three valence electrons and an electron dot structure with three dots. Chlorine, electron arrangement 2-8-7, has seven valence electrons and an electron dot structure with seven dots.

Main group metals (Group A elements) with 1, 2, or 3 valence electrons lose their valence electrons. For example, an aluminum atom loses its three valence electrons. Because Al loses three electrons to reach stability, it acquires an ionic charge of 3+. It is now an aluminum ion with a new electron arrangement of 2,8, which means that it is stable. Positive ions keep the same name as the element.

Aluminum atom	A	Vluminum ion	
Al 2-8-3	Al ³⁺ 2-8	(Electrons lost)	A1+3
13 p	13 p	(Same)	
13 e -	10e -	(Three fewer electrons)	
0	3+		
	Al 2-8-3 13 p	Al Al 3+ 2-8-3 2-8 13 p 13 p 13 e - 10e -	Al Al 3+ 2-8-3

When nonmetals with 5, 6, or 7 valence electrons combine with metals, they gain electrons to become stable, and form negatively charged ions. For example, a chlorine atom gains one valence electron to come stable with an electron arrangement of 2-8-8. With the addition of one electron, chlorine become a chloride ion with an ionic charge of 1-. When naming binary compounds (two different elements), the name of the negative ion ends in -ide.

	Chlorine atom	Chloride ion	
Symbol Electron arrangement Number of protons Number of electrons Net ionic charge	Cl 2-8-7 17 p 17e - 0	Cl- 2-8-8 (Electron added) 17 p (Same) 18 e - (One more electron) 1-	[:CIX]

On the next page write the electron structures for atoms and their ions. Write the symbol, ionic charge, and name of each ion.

B. Writing ionic Formulas

The group number on the periodic table can be used to determine the ionic charges of elements in each family of elements. (Just drop the 1 before 13, 14,15, 16 and 17 to determine the number of valence electrons). Nonmetals only form ions if they combine with a metal.

Group number	1	2		13	14	15	16	17
Valence electrons	1e -	2e -		3 e-	4 e-	5 e-	6 e-	7 e-
Change	lose	lose	1	lose	none	gain	gain	gain
Ionic charge	1+	2+		3+	none	3 -	2 -	1 -

In an ionic formula, the total loss and gain of electrons is equal. The overall net charge is zero. This means that the total amount of positive charge must be made equal to the total amount of negative charge. To balance charge, we determine the smallest number of positive and negative ions that give an overall charge of zero (O). We can illustrate the process by showing the ions Ca²⁺ and Cl⁻ as geometric shapes that represent the amount of ionic charge.

The charge is balanced by using two Cl⁻ ions to match the shape of the Ca²⁺. Charge balance occurs with one(l) calcium ion and two (2) chloride ions. This is shown as subscripts in the formula CaCl₂. The subscript 1 for Ca is understood. Note that only the symbols are written in the formula, not their ionic charges.

Balancing the amount of ionic charge

Draw the e- Dot stouctures, write the formula frame them

1. lithium and iodine	2. calcium and iodine	3. magnesium and sulfur
Formula	Formula	Formula
Name	Name	Name
4. sodium and oxygen	5. aluminum and chlorine	6. aluminum and phosphorus
	s	
	• • •	
Formula	Formula	Formula
Name	Name	Name
7. calcium and sulfur	8. potassium and oxygen	9. lithium and bromine
Formula	Formula	Formula
Name	Name	Name

10. magnesium and bromine	11. calcium a	nd oxygen	12. potassium and sulfur	
Formula	Formula		Formula	
Name	Name		Name	
C. Give the formula for each of the	following ionic			
1. calcium nitride		6. calcium chloric		
2. aluminum phosphide		7. lithium fluoride		
3. aluminum sulfide		8. sodium bromide		
4. sodium chloride		9. potassium oxide		
5. potassium oxide		10. magnesium io	dide	
D. Name the following ionic composition of the foll		7. LiCl		
E. When is an ionic bond forme Which groups tend to form	ed?			

A. Transition Metals

Most of the transition metals form ions that have two or more positive ionic charges. We will illustrate variable valence with iron. Iron forms two ions, one (Fe²⁺) with a 2+ charge, and another (Fe³⁺) with a 3+ charge. To distinguish between the two ions, the element name is followed by a Roman numeral that gives the ionic charge of that particular ion. The Roman numeral is always included in the names of compound with variable positive ions. In an older naming system, the ending -ous indicates the lower valence; the ending -ic indicates the higher one.

Ions	Names	Formula of Compound	Name
Fez+	iron (II) ion or ferrous ion	FeCl ₂	iron (II) chloride or ferrous chloride
Fe ³⁺	iron (III) ion or ferric ion	FeCl ₃	iron (III) chloride or ferric chloride
Cu1+	copper (I) ion or cuprous ion	CuCl	copper (I) chloride or cuprous chloride
Cu ²⁺	copper (II) ion	CuCl ₂	copper (II) chloride or cupric chloride

other combinations you must know are Pb2+ and Pb4+, Su4+ and Sn4+, Hg2 2+ and Hg2+.

Among the transition metals, a few elements namely zinc, silver and cadmium form only a single type of ion; they have fixed ionic charges. Thus, they are not variable and do not use a Roman numeral in their names.

Zn²⁺ zinc ion Ag⁺ silver ion Cd²⁺ cadmium ion

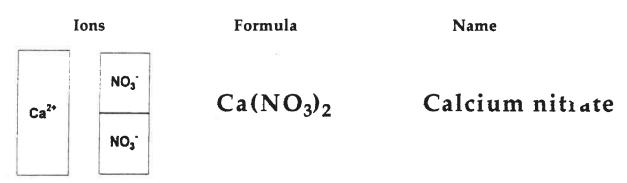
Complete the following chart.

Name	Positive Ion	Negative Ion	Formula
iron (II) chloride			
	Fe 9+3	Br-	
			CuCl ₂
cupric sulfide Copper	TSulfide		
	Cu ¹⁺	N ³⁻	
			Ag ₂ S
zinc oxide			
	Pb ²⁺	р3-	
			PbO ₂

PART 3: Polyatomic ions

When an ionic compound consists of three or more kinds of atoms, there is a positive ion (usually a metal), and a group of nonmetals called a polyatomic ion. A polyatomic ion is a group of atoms (nonmetals) with an overall charge. That charge, which is usually negative, is the result of adding electrons (1, 2, or 3) to that group of atoms to complete octets. The most common polyatomic ions consist of the nonmetals C, N, S, P, Cl or Br combined with two to four oxygen atoms. Some examples are given below. The ions are named by replacing the ending of the nonmetal with -ate or -ite. The most common form of the ion takes the ate ending; the ite ending has one less oxygen. A complete list is found on your reference tables. Ammonium ion, NH⁴⁺, is positive because its group of atoms lost one electron.

To write the correct formula of a compound with a polyatomic ion, determine the ions required to achieve charge balance just as we did earlier. When two or more polyatomic ions are needed, enclose the formula of the ion in parenthesis, and write the subscript outside. No change is made in the formula of the polyatomic ion itself: Consider the formula of the compound formed by Ca²⁺ and NO³⁻ ions.



Determine the positive ions and negative polyatomic ions needed for charge balance. Write the formula using parentheses if necessary. Name the compounds listed using the correct names of the polyatomic ions.

Name	positive ion	negative ion	Formula
sodium nitite nitrite			
	Li ¹⁺	CO ₃ ² -	
			K ₂ SO ₄
calcium hydrogen carbonate			
	A1 ³⁺	OH1-	
			Pb ₃ (PO ₄) ₂
plumbic sulfate or Land(IV)			
	Mg ²⁺	CH ₃ COO ¹ -	
			Ca(ClO ₂) ₂
ammonium sulfite			
	Cu ²⁺	ClO ₃ 1-	
