

Chemical Nomenclature	Name:	
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for

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CHEMICAL NOMENCLATURE

The International Union of Pure & Applied Chemists (IUPAC) has established rules for naming chemical compounds (chemical nomenclature). Therefore, uniformity is achieved in chemistry especially in the scientific literature. Different nomenclature rules are used for inorganic and organic compounds.

INORGANIC NOMECLATURE

I. NAMING IONIC COMPOUNDS

Monoatomic cations are named by the elemental name followed by ion.

Ca^{2+} calcium ion

Many transition metal cations have more than one charge. In this case when naming these cations the “stock nomenclature system” is used by writing a roman numeral in parenthesis after the elemental name.

Fe^{2+} iron (II) ion	Cu^{1+} copper (I) ion	Hg_2^{2+} mercury (I) ion
Fe^{3+} iron (III) ion	Cu^{2+} copper (II) ion	Hg^{2+} mercury (II) ion

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An older method is also used to distinguish between cations that can vary in charge, using the 2 most common oxidation states (“charges”). The Latin root of the elemental name is followed by –ic or –ous. The –ic ending indicates a larger positive charge than –ous.

Fe^{2+} ferrous ion	Cu^{1+} cuprous ion	Hg_2^{2+} mercurous ion
Fe^{3+} ferric ion	Cu^{2+} cupric ion	Hg^{2+} mercuric ion

The older nomenclature is not used much in chemistry texts, but it is used commonly to label chemical bottles containing ionic compounds.

Monoatomic anions are named by replacing the end of the element with –ide.

Cl chlorine atom
 Cl^- chloride ion

Many anions are **polyatomic ions**. Some of these also end in –ide.

OH^- hydroxide ion
 CN^- cyanide ion

Most **polyatomic ions** are oxyanions meaning they contain oxygen with other elements. If two oxyanions are in a common series, the ion with more oxygens ends in -ate (the originating acid name ends in -ic) and the ion with one less oxygen ends in -ite (the originating acid name ends in -ous).

NO_3^- nitrate ion SO_4^{2-} sulfate ion
 NO_2^- nitrite ion SO_3^{2-} sulfite ion

Some **polyatomic anions** form a common series with four different oxyanions.

ClO_4^- perchlorate ion (from perchlorIC acid)
 ClO_3^- chlorate ion
 ClO_2^- chlorite ion
 ClO^- hypochlorite ion (from hypochlorOUS acid)

per___ate means the most oxygen atoms in the ion – usually 4

___ate means one less oxygen than per___ate

___ite means one less oxygen than -ate

hypo___ite means one less oxygen than -ite (least oxygen atoms in the ion) – usually 1

Hydrogen ion, H^+ , can be added to polyatomic anions one step at a time until a neutral acid is produced. Each added H^+ neutralizes one negative charge.

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PO_4^{3-} phosphate ion
 HPO_4^{2-} hydrogenphosphate ion
 $H_2PO_4^-$ dihydrogenphosphate ion
 H_3PO_4 phosphoric acid

When naming ionic compounds, also known as salts, the cation is named first followed by the name of the anion. The word ion is dropped from each ion name. Subscripts representing how many ions are in the empirical formula are not named with ionic nomenclature, because they can be figured out by logic. So remember with salts DO NOT USE PREFIXES TO NAME THE SUBSCRIPTS.

$CaCl_2$ Calcium chloride **not** calcium dichloride.
 $Ca_3(PO_4)_2$ Calcium phosphate **not** tricalcium diphosphate

Even though ionic crystalline solids contain ions, the sum of the positive charges equals the sum of the negative charges so the salt crystals are neutral. Since the size of a salt crystal can vary, a neutral empirical formula is used to represent a salt crystal.

$Al_2(SO_4)_3$ the cation is Al^{3+} and the anion is SO_4^{2-} so the name is aluminum sulfate.

$Al_2(SO_4)_3$ this neutral empirical formula represents 2 Al^{3+} for every 3 SO_4^{2-} in the salt

To make a neutral formula from ions the crossover method is used.

Al^{3+} and SO_4^{2-} becomes $Al_2(SO_4)_3$

The 3 superscript from the aluminum ion will become the subscript for the sulfate and, the 2 superscript from the sulfate will become the subscript on the aluminum atom to produce the neutral salt formula $Al_2(SO_4)_3$. When more than one polyatomic ion is needed in the formula, the subscript is placed outside of parenthesis. In the neutral salt formula, superscripted charges are not used to represent ions in the empirical formula. They are omitted. One can tell it is a salt formula because the metal is always first in the formula and the nonmetal is always second in the formula.

II. NAMING BINARY MOLECULAR COMPOUNDS

Binary molecular compounds contain covalent bonds between two different **nonmetal** atoms. Greek prefixes are used to indicate the number of atoms of each element in the molecule. The Greek prefixes are:

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TABLE 1. Prefixes Used in Binary Molecular Compounds

Prefix	Meaning
Mono	1
Di	2
Tri	3
Tetra	4
Penta	5
Hexa	6
Hepta	7
Octa	8
Nona	9
Deca	10

Common names are still used to name some molecules such as the ones in Table 2.

TABLE 2. Common name Formula

Water	H ₂ O
Ammonia	NH ₃
Hydrogen peroxide	H ₂ O ₂
Nitric oxide	NO
Nitrous oxide	N ₂ O

RULES FOR NAMING BINARY MOLECULAR COMPOUNDS

1. The elemental name of the most metallic atom is written first (the one farther to the left in a period or the one farthest down a group).
2. For the second element in the molecule, the ending is dropped from the elemental name and -ide is added. For example, chlorine becomes chloride.
3. Greek prefixes are used to indicate the number of atoms of each element. If there is only one atom of the first element, then the mono is dropped. If the prefix ends in a or o, and the second element begins with a vowel the a or o is often dropped from the prefix.

Cl₂O₇ Dichlorine heptoxide

CO₂ Carbon dioxide

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III. NAMING ACIDS

Acids are named according to the anion they contain.

Anion ending	Acid name
-ide	hydro_____ic acid
Cl ⁻	HCl
chloride	hydrochloric acid
per____ate	per____ic acid
ClO_4^-	$HClO_4$
perchlorate	perchloric acid
-ate	_____ic acid
NO_3^-	HNO_3
nitrate	nitric acid
-ite	_____ous acid
ClO_2^-	$HClO_2$
chlorite	chlorous acid

hypo_____ite
 ClO^-
hypochlorite

hypo_____ous acid
 $HClO$
hypochlorous acid

IV. NAMING SOME SIMPLE ORGANIC COMPOUNDS

We will just learn to name a few organic compounds.

Alkanes consist of only carbon and hydrogen and all the bonds are single.

Prefixes for alkanes

meth- means one carbon

eth- means two carbons

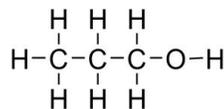
prop- means three carbons

Name	Formula	Structural Formula
Methane	CH_4	$\begin{array}{c} H \\ \\ H-C-H \\ \\ H \end{array}$
Ethane	C_2H_6	$\begin{array}{c} H & H \\ & \\ H-C & -C-H \\ & \\ H & H \end{array}$
Propane	C_3H_8	$\begin{array}{c} H & H & H \\ & & \\ H-C & -C & -C-H \\ & & \\ H & H & H \end{array}$

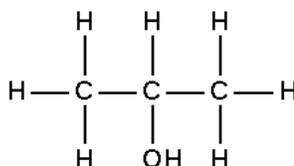
Alcohols have an $-OH$ group bound to a carbon atom. The name ends in $-ol$. With propanol, locant numbers are used to distinguish whether the $-OH$ group is on C-1 or C-2. Locant numbers are always separated from letters with a dash.

Methanol	CH_4O or CH_3OH	$\begin{array}{c} H \\ \\ H-C-O-H \\ \\ H \end{array}$
Ethanol	C_2H_6O or C_2H_5OH	$\begin{array}{c} H & H \\ & \\ H-C & -C-O-H \\ & \\ H & H \end{array}$

1-Propanol $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$



2-Propanol (isopropyl alcohol)
 $\text{CH}_3\text{CHOHCH}_3$



Helpful Reference Materials

COMMON IONS		
Positive Ions (Cations)		
1+	Mercury(II) or mercuric (Hg^{2+})	Hydrogen sulfite or bisulfite (HSO_3^-)
Ammonium (NH_4^+)	Strontium (Sr^{2+})	Hydroxide (OH^-)
Cesium (Cs^+)	Nickel(II) (Ni^{2+})	Iodide (I^-)
Copper(I) or cuprous (Cu^+)	Tin(II) or stannous (Sn^{2+})	Nitrate (NO_3^-)
Hydrogen (H^+)	Zinc (Zn^{2+})	Nitrite (NO_2^-)
Lithium (Li^+)	3+	Perchlorate (ClO_4^-)
Potassium (K^+)	Aluminum (Al^{3+})	Permanganate (MnO_4^-)
Silver (Ag^+)	Chromium(III) or chromic (Cr^{3+})	Thiocyanate (SCN^-)
Sodium (Na^+)	Iron(III) or ferric (Fe^{3+})	2-
2+		Carbonate (CO_3^{2-})
Barium (Ba^{2+})	Negative Ions (Anions)	Chromate (CrO_4^{2-})
Cadmium (Cd^{2+})	1-	Dichromate ($\text{Cr}_2\text{O}_7^{2-}$)
Calcium (Ca^{2+})	Acetate ($\text{C}_2\text{H}_3\text{O}_2^-$)	Hydrogen phosphate (HPO_4^{2-})
Chromium(II) or chromous (Cr^{2+})	Bromide (Br^-)	Oxide (O^{2-})
Cobalt(II) or cobaltous (Co^{2+})	Chlorate (ClO_3^-)	Peroxide (O_2^{2-})
Copper(II) or cupric (Cu^{2+})	Chloride (Cl^-)	Sulfate (SO_4^{2-})
Iron(II) or ferrous (Fe^{2+})	Cyanide (CN^-)	Sulfide (S^{2-})
Lead(II) or plumbous (Pb^{2+})	Dihydrogen phosphate (H_2PO_4^-)	Sulfite (SO_3^{2-})
Magnesium (Mg^{2+})	Fluoride (F^-)	3-
Manganese(II) or manganous (Mn^{2+})	Hydride (H^-)	Arsenate (AsO_4^{3-})
Mercury(I) or mercurous (Hg_2^{2+})	Hydrogen carbonate or bicarbonate (HCO_3^-)	Phosphate (PO_4^{3-})

1A												7A 8A				NOBLE GASES	
H ⁺	2A	Transition metals										3A	4A	5A	6A		H ⁻
Li ⁺													Al ³⁺		N ³⁻	O ²⁻	F ⁻
Na ⁺	Mg ²⁺														P ³⁻	S ²⁻	Cl ⁻
K ⁺	Ca ²⁺			Cr ³⁺	Mn ²⁺	Fe ²⁺ Fe ³⁺	Co ²⁺	Ni ²⁺	Cu ⁺ Cu ²⁺	Zn ²⁺					Se ²⁻	Br ⁻	
Rb ⁺	Sr ²⁺								Ag ⁺	Cd ²⁺		Sn ²⁺		Te ²⁻	I ⁻		
Cs ⁺	Ba ²⁺							Pt ²⁺	Au ⁺ Au ³⁺	Hg ²⁺ Hg ²⁺		Pb ²⁺	Bi ³⁺				

NOMENCLATURE WORKSHEET

Name the following ionic compounds. Complete before leaving lab.

KMnO_4 _____ $\text{Al}(\text{NO}_3)_3$ _____

Na_2CrO_4 _____ MgO _____

AgCl _____ AlN _____

Na_2O _____ $\text{Ca}_3(\text{PO}_4)_2$ _____

$\text{NaC}_2\text{H}_3\text{O}_2$ _____ K_3N _____

CuSO_4 _____ LiH_2PO_4 _____

$\text{Sn}(\text{ClO})_4$ _____

Give the formula for the following ionic compounds.

Sodium carbonate _____

nickel (III) sulfide _____

Sodium bicarbonate _____

Calcium sulfide _____

Calcium sulfate _____

Iron (III) hydroxide _____

Name the following molecules.

H₂O _____ NH₃ _____

PCl₅ _____ Cl₂O₇ _____

O₂ _____ P₄O₁₀ _____

Cl₂ _____ H₂ _____

N₂O₅ _____ H₂O₂ _____

CO _____ SO₂ _____

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Write the formula for the following molecules.

Antimony tribromide _____

Pentaphosphorus pentoxide _____

Phosphorus triiodide _____

Tetraphosphorus pentasulfide _____

Nitrogen trifluoride _____

Name the following acids

H_2SO_4 _____

HCl _____

HClO_4 _____

HBr _____

HI _____

HNO_3 _____

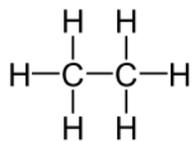
HClO_3 _____

$\text{HC}_2\text{H}_3\text{O}_2$ or CH_3COOH (or HOAc) _____

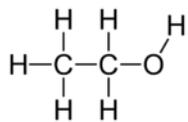
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Name the following organic molecules

CH_4 _____



C_2H_6 _____



, $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$ _____