Elements and their Symbols



S1-2-03 Define element and identify symbols of some common elements. Include: the first 18 elements, K, Ca, Fe, Ni, Cu, Zn, I, Ag, Sn, Au, W, Hg, Pb, U

Elements...

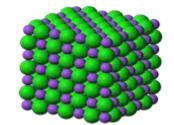
Element:

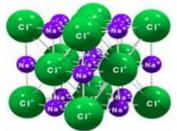
An element is a <u>PURE SUBSTANCE</u> that <u>CANNOT</u> be <u>BROKEN</u> <u>DOWN</u> into <u>SIMPLER</u> <u>SUBSTANCES</u>.

Elements are made up of **IDENTICAL ATOMS**.

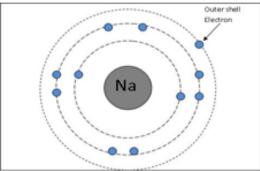
Example:

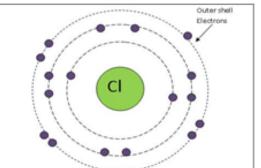
Table salt is **<u>NOT</u>** an element because it can be broken down into atoms of **<u>SODIUM</u>** and **<u>CHLORINE</u>**.





SODIUM and **CHLORINE** cannot be broken down, so they are **ELEMENTS**





Element Symbols...

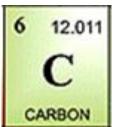
ATOMIC SYMBOLS

In order to shorten things, scientists came up with **<u>SYMBOLS</u>** that **<u>REPRESENT</u>** each element known to us.

A chemical **<u>SYMBOL</u>** is just an **<u>ABBREVIATION</u>** of the <u>NAME</u>, but there are <u>**RULES**</u> for symbols:

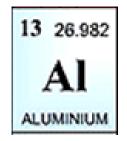
1. A single letter symbol is always capitalized.

Ex) Carbon = C



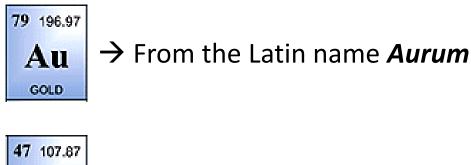
2. The first letter of a two-letter symbol is always capitalized, while the second is lower case.

Ex) Aluminum = Al

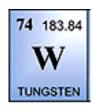


Element Symbols...

Many symbols are not just the first letters of the name of the chemical, some are different. For example:



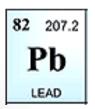
ightarrow From the Latin name Argentum



Ag

SILVER

→ From the German *Wolfram*



 \rightarrow From the Latin name **Plumbum**

Element Symbols...

Some elements get their names from who or where they were discovered. For example:

