# COMMON ELEMENTS AND IONS

(arranged in order of increasing atomic number)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Symbol</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Charge on ion</th>
<th>Name of ion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>hydrogen</td>
<td>+1</td>
<td>hydrogen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>He</td>
<td>helium</td>
<td>none</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>carbon</td>
<td>none</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>nitrogen</td>
<td>-3</td>
<td>nitride</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O</td>
<td>oxygen</td>
<td>-2</td>
<td>oxide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>fluorine</td>
<td>-1</td>
<td>fluoride</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Na</td>
<td>sodium</td>
<td>+1</td>
<td>sodium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mg</td>
<td>magnesium</td>
<td>+2</td>
<td>magnesium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Al</td>
<td>aluminum*</td>
<td>+3</td>
<td>aluminum*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Si</td>
<td>silicon</td>
<td>none</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P</td>
<td>phosphorus</td>
<td>-3</td>
<td>phosphide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S</td>
<td>sulfur**</td>
<td>-2</td>
<td>sulfide**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cl</td>
<td>chlorine</td>
<td>-1</td>
<td>chloride</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K</td>
<td>potassium</td>
<td>+1</td>
<td>potassium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ca</td>
<td>calcium</td>
<td>+2</td>
<td>calcium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fe</td>
<td>iron</td>
<td>(more than one)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cu</td>
<td>copper</td>
<td>(more than one)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zn</td>
<td>zinc</td>
<td>+2</td>
<td>zinc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Br</td>
<td>bromine</td>
<td>-1</td>
<td>bromide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ag</td>
<td>silver</td>
<td>+1</td>
<td>silver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sn</td>
<td>tin</td>
<td>(more than one)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>iodine</td>
<td>-1</td>
<td>iodide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Au</td>
<td>gold</td>
<td>(more than one)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hg</td>
<td>mercury</td>
<td>(more than one)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pb</td>
<td>lead</td>
<td>(more than one)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: we do not expect you to know the ion charges on those elements that can form more than one ion (Fe, Cu, Sn, etc.).

*This name is spelled “aluminium” in many English-speaking countries.

**These names are spelled “sulphur” and “sulphide” in many English-speaking countries.

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## A few common polyatomic ions that you should know

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Formula</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OH⁻</td>
<td>hydroxide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NH₄⁺</td>
<td>ammonium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CO₃²⁻</td>
<td>carbonate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NO₃⁻</td>
<td>nitrate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PO₄³⁻</td>
<td>phosphate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SO₄²⁻</td>
<td>sulfate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HCO₃⁻</td>
<td>bicarbonate (common name) hydrogen carbonate (official name)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>