

Atomic Particles

Particle	Charge	Mass #	Location
Electron	-1	0	Electron cloud
Proton	+1	1	Nucleus
Neutron	0	1	Nucleus

Atomic Number

Atomic Number of an element is the number of protons in the nucleus of each atom of that element.

Element	# of protons	Atomic #
Carbon	6	6
Phosphorus	15	15
Gold	79	79

Mass Number




Mass number is the number of protons and neutrons in the nucleus of an isotope.

$$\text{Mass \#} = p^+ + n^0$$

Atom	p^+	n^0	e^-	Mass #
Oxygen - 18	8	10	8	18
Arsenic - 75	33	42	33	75
Phosphorus - 31	15	16	15	31

Isotopes

Isotopes are atoms of the same element having different masses due to varying numbers of neutrons.

Isotope	Protons	Electrons	Neutrons	Nucleus
Hydrogen-1 (protium)	1	1	0	
Hydrogen-2 (deuterium)	1	1	1	
Hydrogen-3 (tritium)	1	1	2	

Atomic Masses

Atomic mass is the average of all the naturally occurring isotopes of that element.

Isotope	Symbol	Composition of the nucleus	% in nature
Carbon-12	^{12}C	6 protons 6 neutrons	98.89%
Carbon-13	^{13}C	6 protons 7 neutrons	1.11%
Carbon-14	^{14}C	6 protons 8 neutrons	<0.01%

Carbon = 12.011