

Quantum Number	Range of Its Values	Relevance to Periodic Table	Relevance to Electrons in Atom	Importance in Chemistry
$n$	Integer values 1 to 7	Correspond roughly to the period in the PT	The “shells”, the energy levels in the atom	Electrons with different $n$ have different energies: when electrons go from ground state to excited state, these are transitions between different $n$ levels
$l$	Integer values 0 to 3	Account for the patterns seen in the groups of the Periodic Table: s-block, p-block, d-block, f-block	The “subshells”: there are intrashell energy differences that explain how orbitals are filled with electrons, but they are small compared to $n$ - $n$ transitions	Explains how electrons are filled within a shell (set by $n$ ) and which give elements their special chemistry within these blocks ( $s$ , $p$ , $d$ , and $f$ )
$m_l, m_s$	Do not struggle with these. These are more for chem major students			

$l$ value	Orbital type	# orbitals this type	Orbital geometric shape	Total # electrons in this type*	Groups covered in Periodic Table
<b>0</b>	<b>s</b>	1	Spherical	2	1-2
<b>1</b>	<b>p</b>	3	Bilobed (“dumbbell” or peanut-shaped)	6	13-18
<b>2</b>	<b>d</b>	5	Four bilobed “cloverleaf” and one bilobed with ring/torus	10	3-12
<b>3</b>	<b>f</b>	7	generally multi-lobed or cloverleaf-like, some with a doughnut-shaped ring. Are the most complex orbital shapes	14	Considered “inner transition” metal elements, not really covered by numbered Groups in table
* total electrons = number of the orbital type (3 <sup>rd</sup> column) times two electrons per orbital					

## ATOMIC ORBITAL ENERGY LEVELS

