

PHYSICS - The Nuclear Atom

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Core

- Describe the structure of an atom in terms of a positive nucleus and negative electrons
- Describe the composition of the nucleus in terms of protons and neutrons
- State the charges of protons and neutrons
- Use the term proton number Z
- Use the term nucleon number A
- Use the term nuclide and use the nuclide notation A ZX
- Use and explain the term isotope

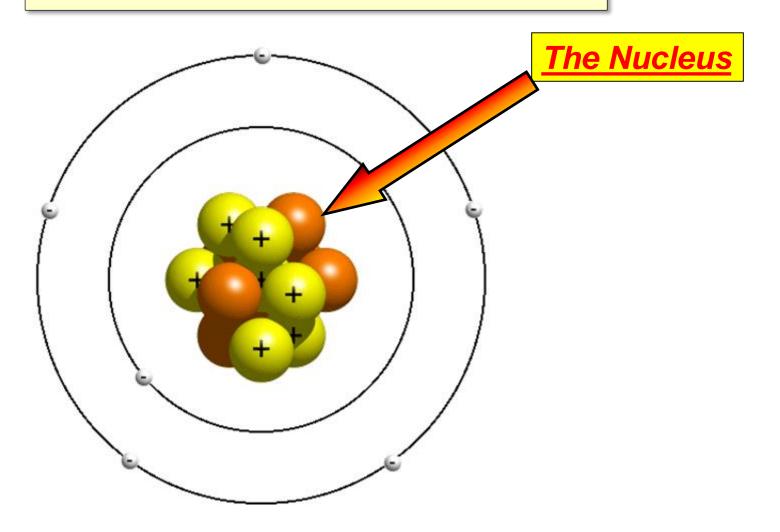
Supplement

- particles by thin metal foils provides evidence for the nuclear atom
- State the meaning of nuclear fission and nuclear fusion

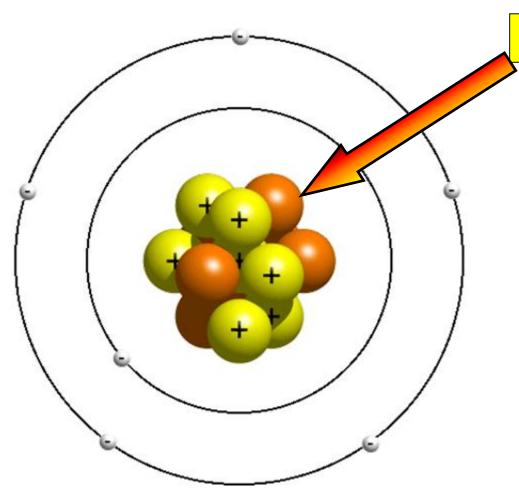
 Balance equations involving nuclide notation

Atomic structure

Atomic structure



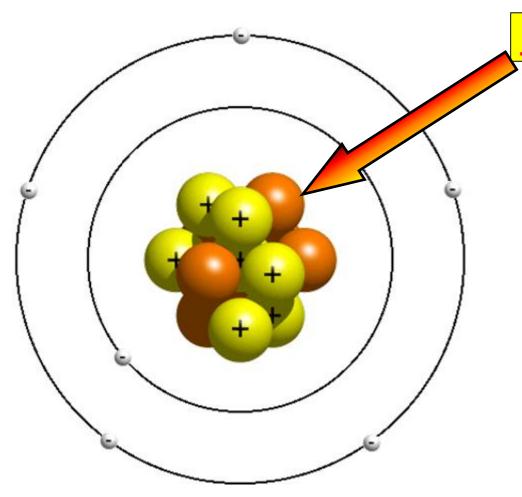
Atomic structure



The Nucleus

1) It's in the middle of the atom

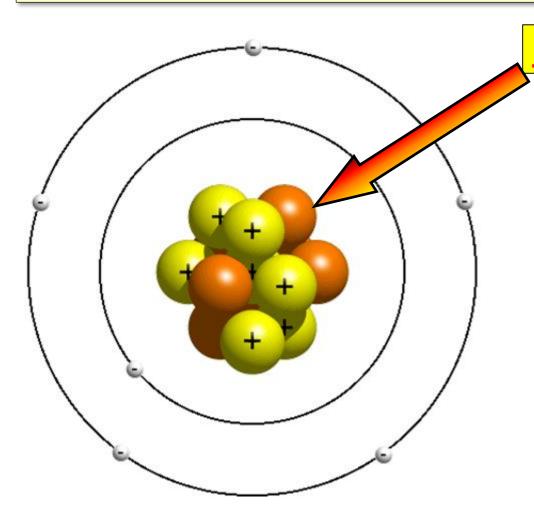
Atomic structure



The Nucleus

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- 2) It contains <u>protons</u> and <u>neutrons</u>

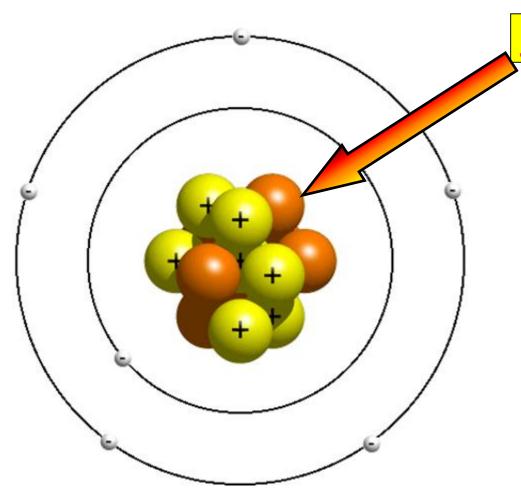
Atomic structure



The Nucleus

- 1) It's in the middle of the atom
- 2) It contains <u>protons</u> and <u>neutrons</u>
- 3) It has a <u>positive charge</u> because of the <u>protons</u>.

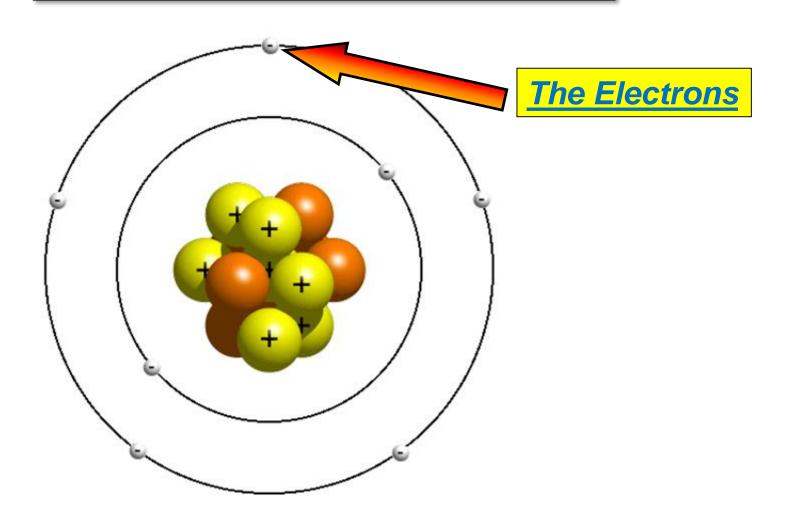
Atomic structure



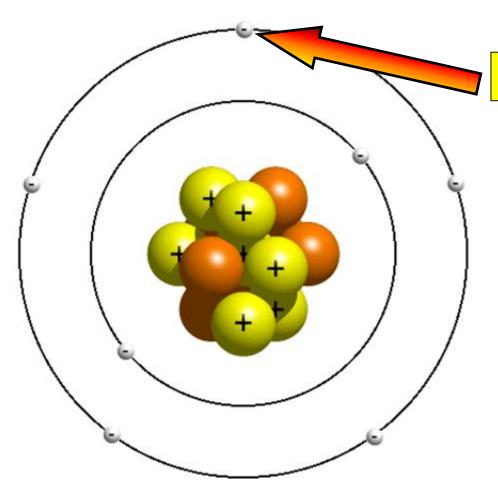
The Nucleus

- 1) It's in the middle of the atom
- 2) It contains <u>protons</u> and <u>neutrons</u>
- 3) It has a <u>positive charge</u> because of the <u>protons</u>.
- 4) Almost <u>the whole mass</u> of the atom is <u>concentrated in the nucleus.</u>

Atomic structure



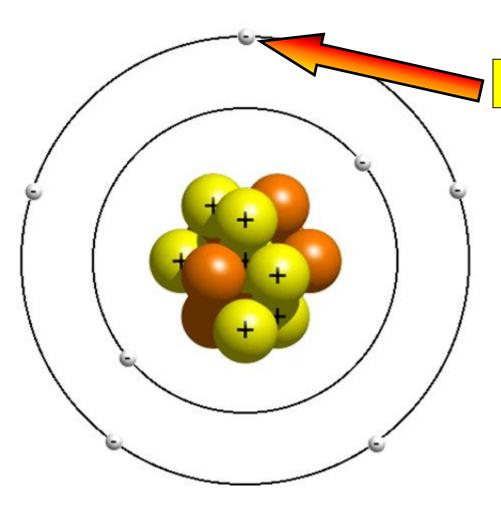
Atomic structure



The Electrons

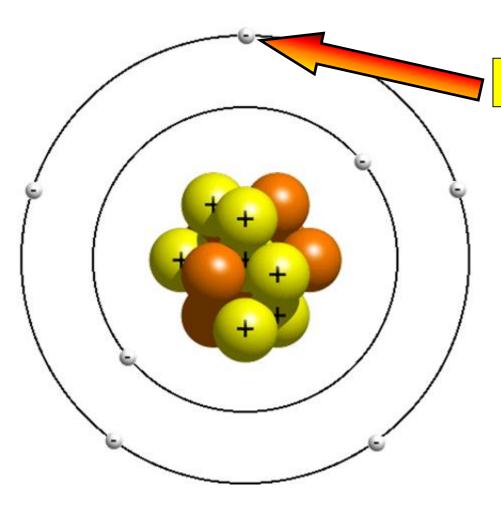
1) Move <u>around</u> the nucleus.

Atomic structure



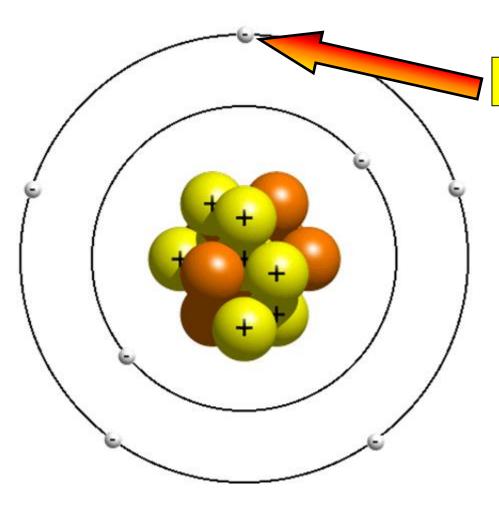
- 1) Move <u>around</u> the nucleus
- 2) They're <u>negatively charged</u>. .

Atomic structure



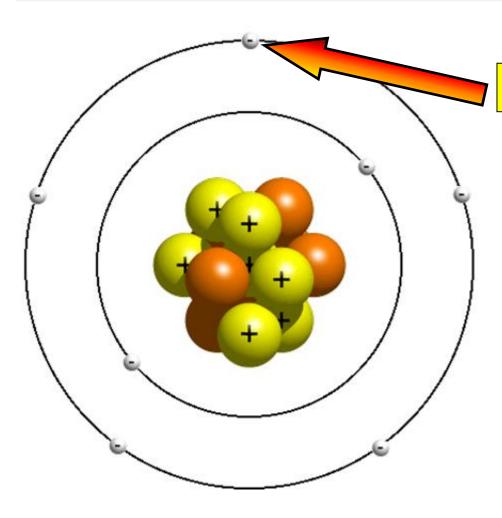
- 1) Move <u>around</u> the nucleus
- 2) They're <u>negatively charged</u>.
- 3) They're <u>tiny</u>, but they <u>cover a lot of space</u>..

Atomic structure



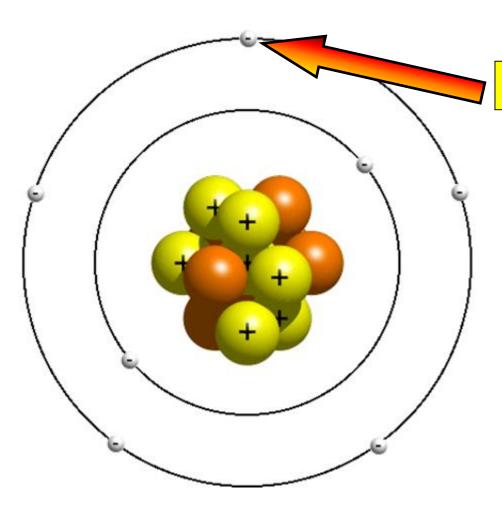
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Atomic structure



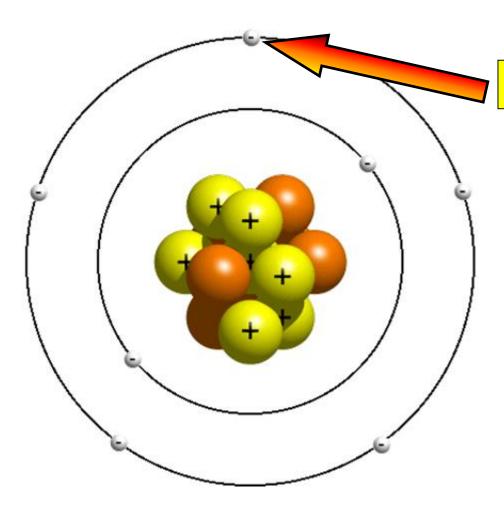
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Atomic structure



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- 6) They occupy <u>shells</u> around the nucleus.
- 7) These shells explain the whole of chemistry.

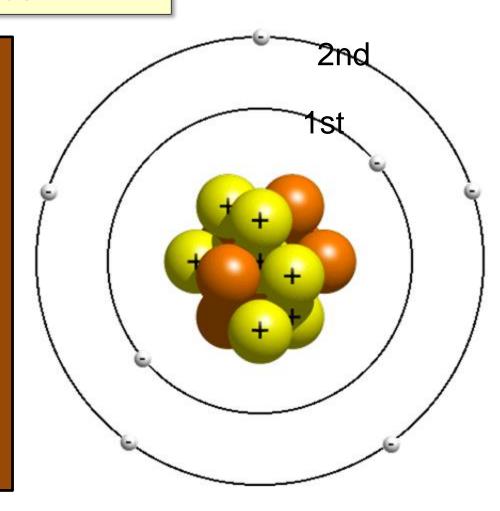
Atomic structure

Summary

Particle	Mass	Charge
Proton	1	+1
Neutron	1	0
Electron	1/2000	-1

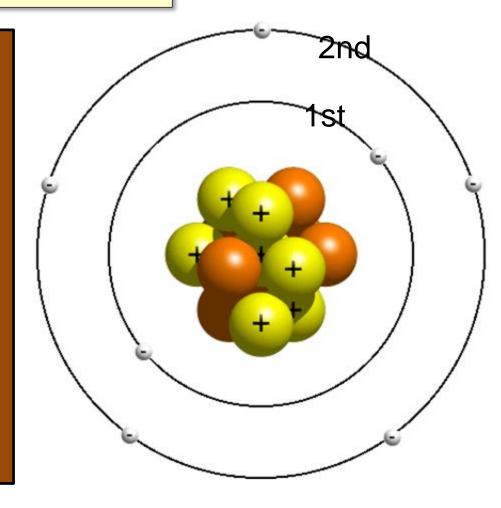
Electron Shell Rules

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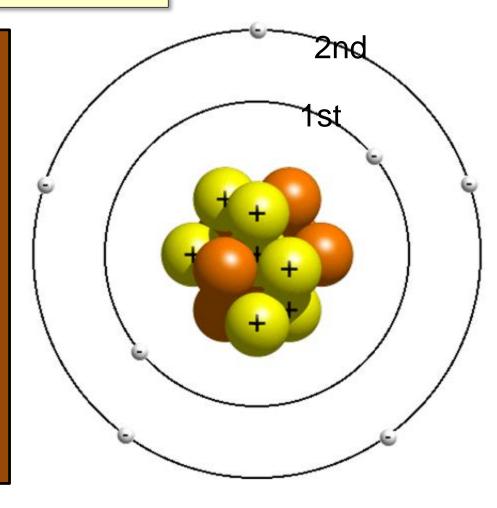
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 1st shell:
 2

 2nd shell:
 8

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Electron Shell Rules

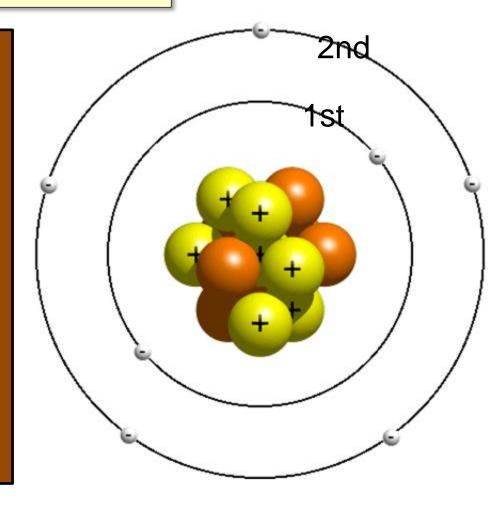
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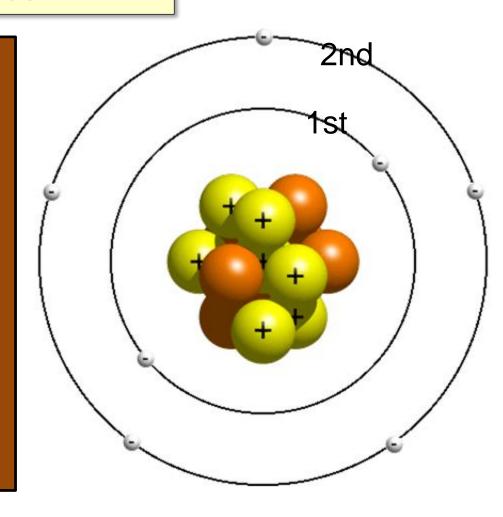


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- 5) In most atoms the <u>OUTER SHELL</u> is <u>NOT</u> <u>FULL</u> and this makes the atom want to <u>REACT</u>.

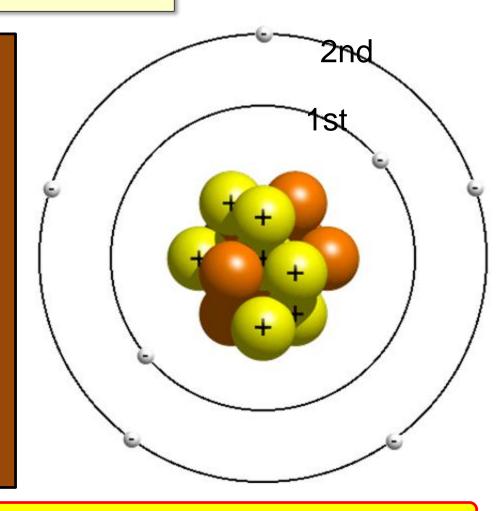


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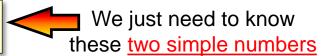
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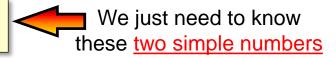


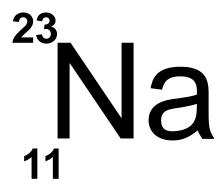
So, how do we know how many electrons, protons and neutrons there are?

Atomic Number and Mass Number



Atomic Number and Mass Number





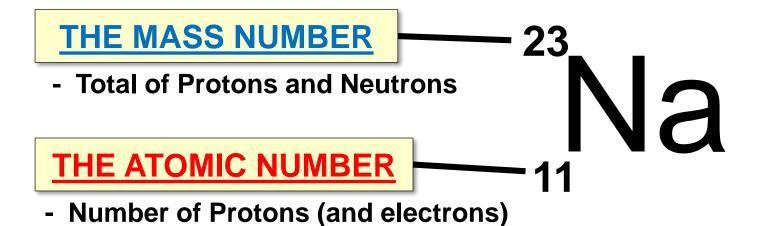
Atomic Number and Mass Number

We just need to know these two simple numbers



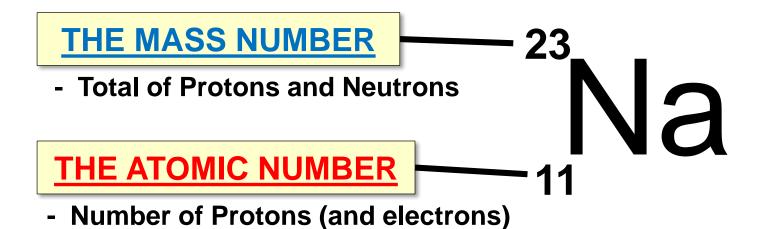
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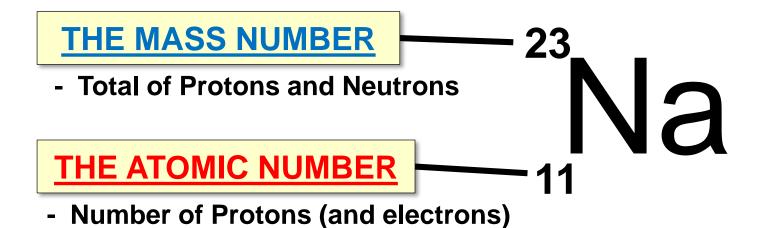
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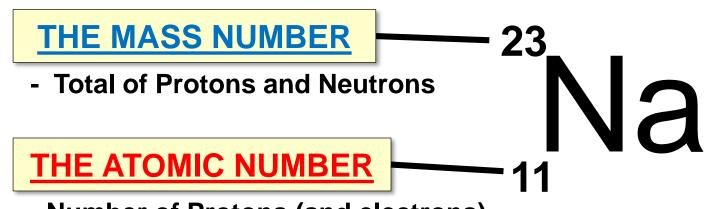
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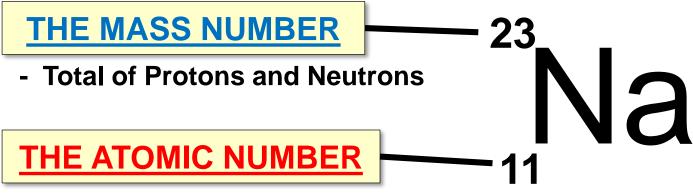
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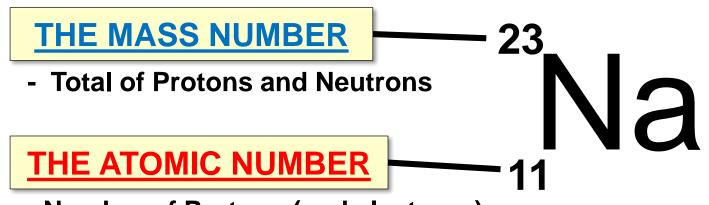
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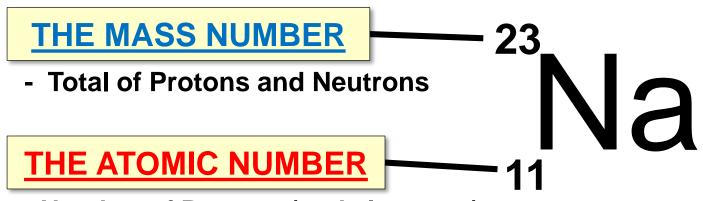
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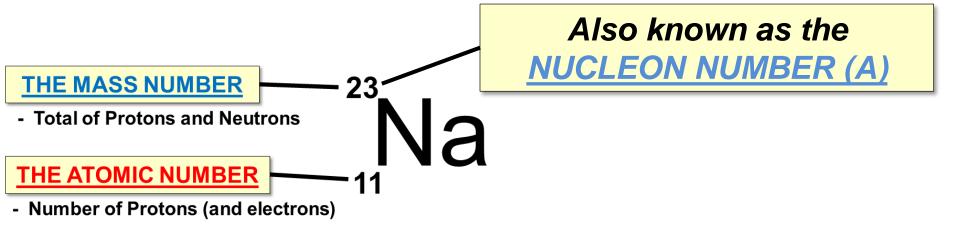
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Atomic Number and Mass Number

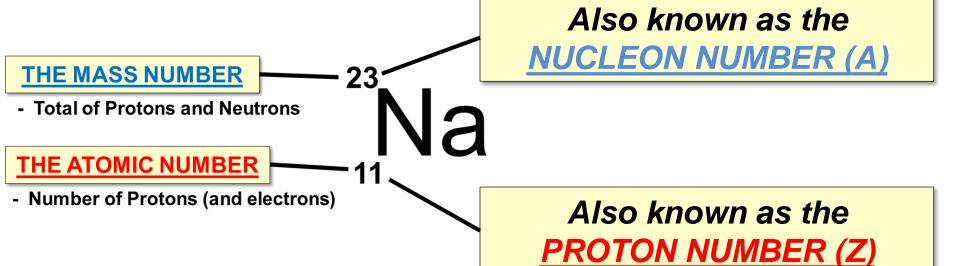


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- 5) The <u>mass number</u> is always <u>roughly double</u> the atomic number.
- 6) Which means there's about the same number of protons as neutrons in any nucleus.

Atomic Number and Mass Number



Atomic Number and Mass Number



Atomic Number and Mass Number

THE MASS NUMBER

- Total of Protons and Neutrons

THE ATOMIC NUMBER

- Number of Protons (and electrons)

This is known as the <u>NUCLIDE</u>
NOTATION

A X

Also known as the NUCLEON NUMBER (A)

Also known as the PROTON NUMBER (Z)

Each different type of atom is called a <u>NUCLIDE</u>

Atoms

Supplement

Atomic Number and Mass Number

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Balance equations involving nuclide notation

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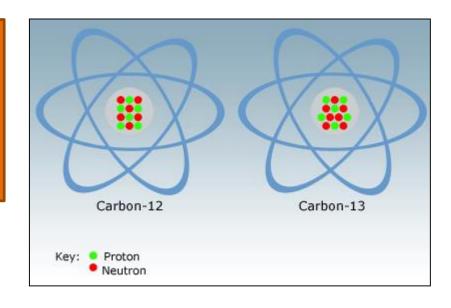
Also known as the PROTON NUMBER (Z)

$$_{92}^{238}$$
U \longrightarrow $_{90}^{234}$ Th + $_{2}^{4}$ He

Different forms of the same element

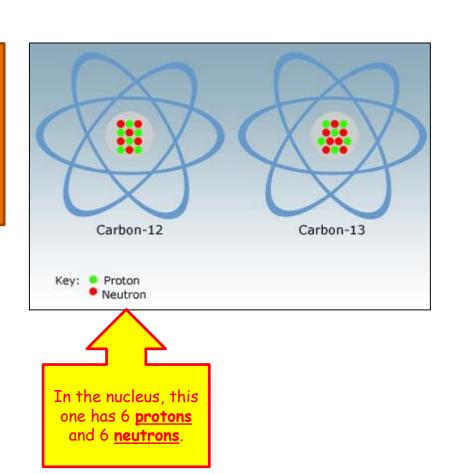
Different forms of the same element





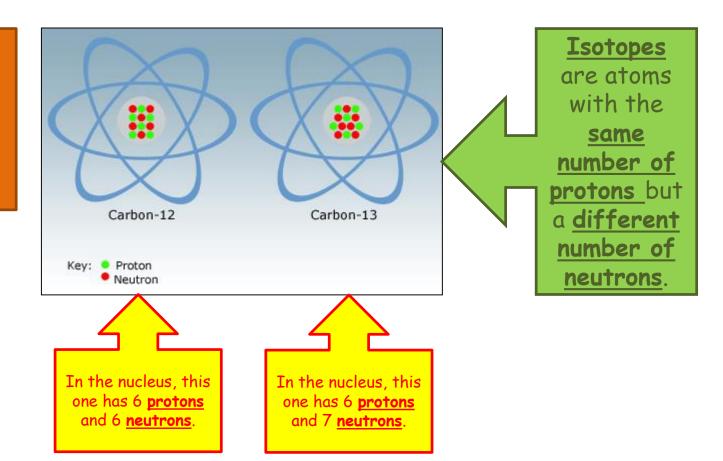
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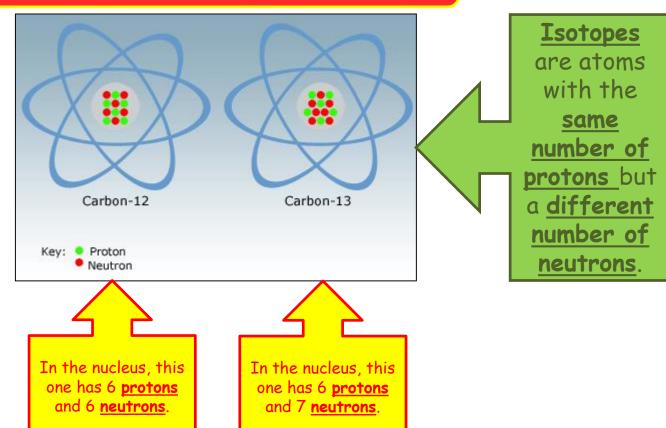




Different forms of the same element

Isotopes have the same atomic number, but different mass numbers





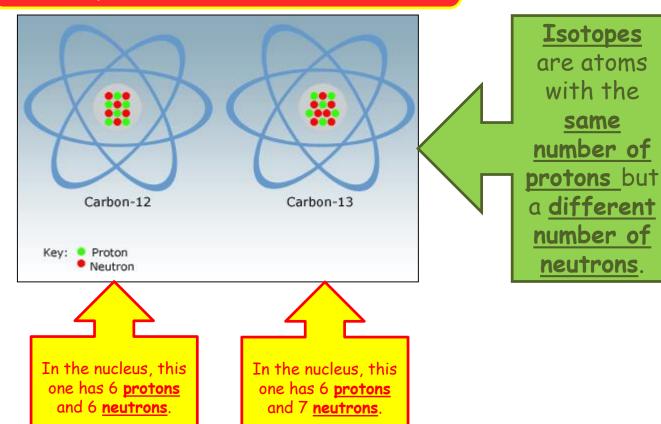




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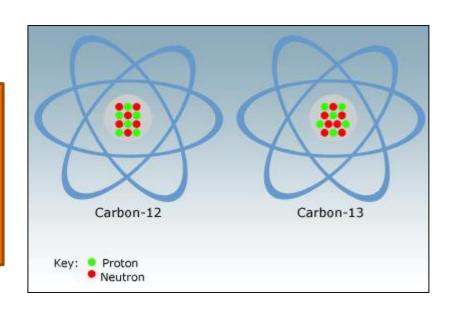




Different forms of the same element

What are the features of isotopes?





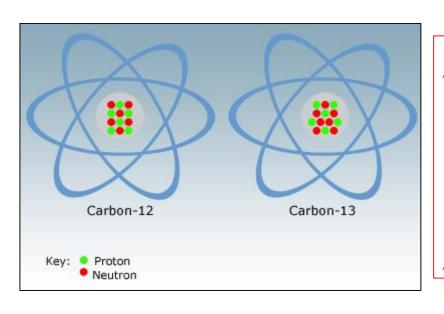




Different forms of the same element

What are the features of isotopes?





Most elements

have different isotopes but there's usually only one or two stable ones.

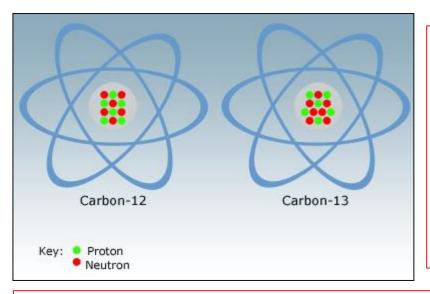




Different forms of the same element

What are the features of isotopes?





Most elements
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The other isotopes tend to be <u>radioactive</u>, which means that they <u>decay</u> into <u>other elements</u> and <u>give out radiation</u>. This is where all <u>radioactivity</u> comes from - <u>unstable radioactive isotopes</u> undergoing <u>nuclear decay</u> and spitting out high energy particles.

Supplement

WHAT EVIDENCE IS THERE?



WHAT EVIDENCE IS THERE?

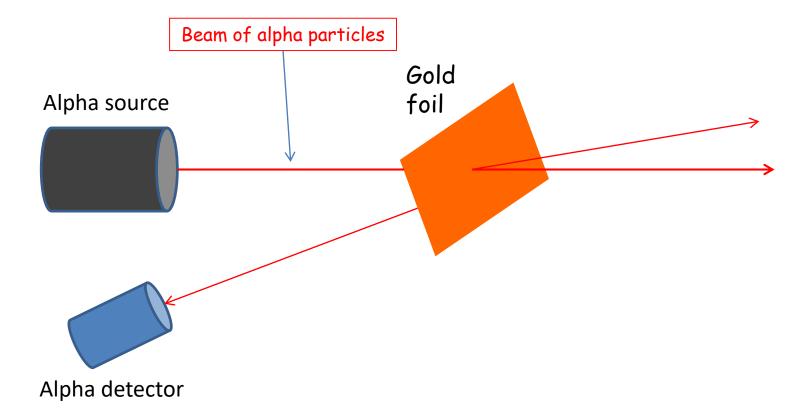
Describe how the scattering of aparticles by thin metal foils provides evidence for the nuclear atom

Supplement

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1911 Rutherford, Geiger and Marsden

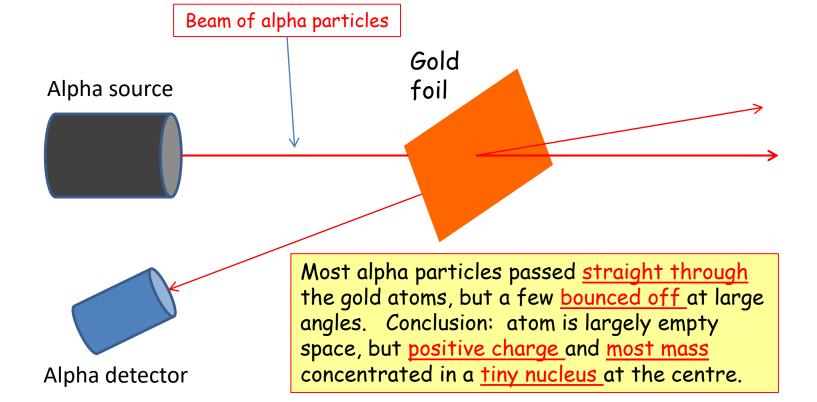


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WHAT EVIDENCE IS THERE?

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Alpha detector

1911 Rutherford, Geiger and Marsden

Alpha source

Gold

foil

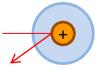
Most alpha particles passed <u>straight through</u> the gold atoms, but a few <u>bounced off</u> at large angles. Conclusion: atom is largely empty space, but <u>positive charge</u> and <u>most mass</u> concentrated in a <u>tiny nucleus</u> at the centre.



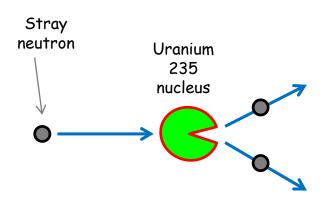
Most alpha particles are undeflected



Some alpha particles are deflected slightly



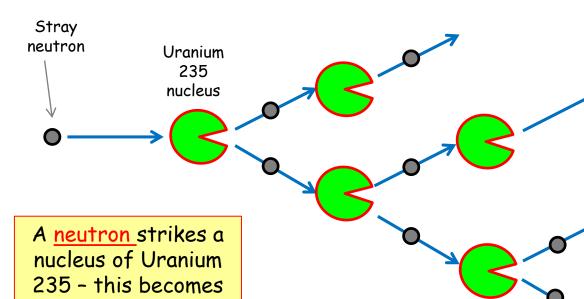
A few alpha particles bounce off the nucleus



A <u>neutron</u> strikes a nucleus of Uranium 235 - this becomes <u>unstable</u>, splits into two lighter nuclei and <u>releases 2 or 3</u> neutrons.





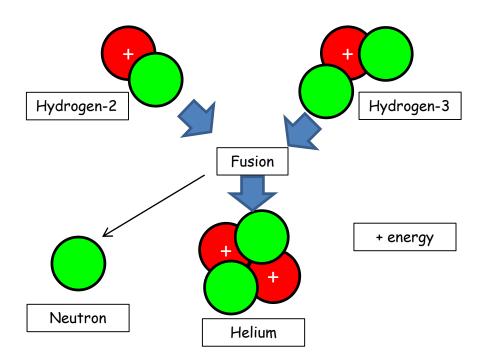


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The emitted neutrons go on to split other nuclei, and so on ... the result is a chain reaction, releasing huge amounts of energy

Energy can be released by <u>fusing</u> (joining together) <u>very light nuclei</u> to make <u>heavier ones</u>. For example, <u>two hydrogen nuclei</u> can be joined together to form <u>helium</u>.



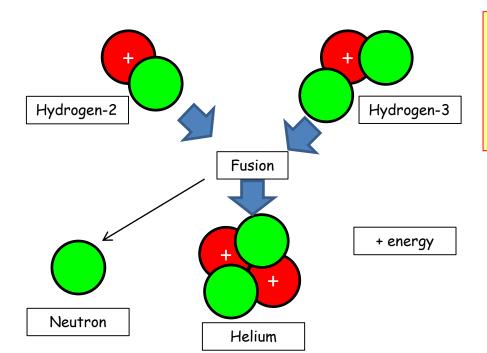


Supplement

State the meaning of nuclear fission and nuclear fusion

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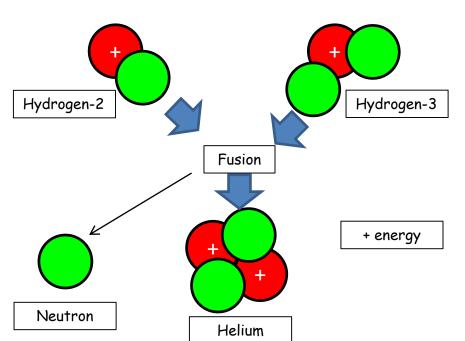




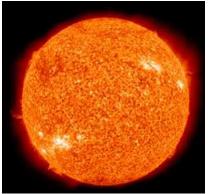
Fusion is <u>very difficult</u> to achieve - the gas must be <u>much hotter</u> than any t<u>emperatures</u> normally achieved on Earth to overcome the <u>natural repulsion</u> of the fast-moving nuclei.

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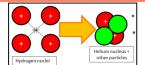




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Fusion occurs
naturally on the Sun,
where four hydrogen
nuclei fuse to form
helium



LEARNING OBJECTIVES

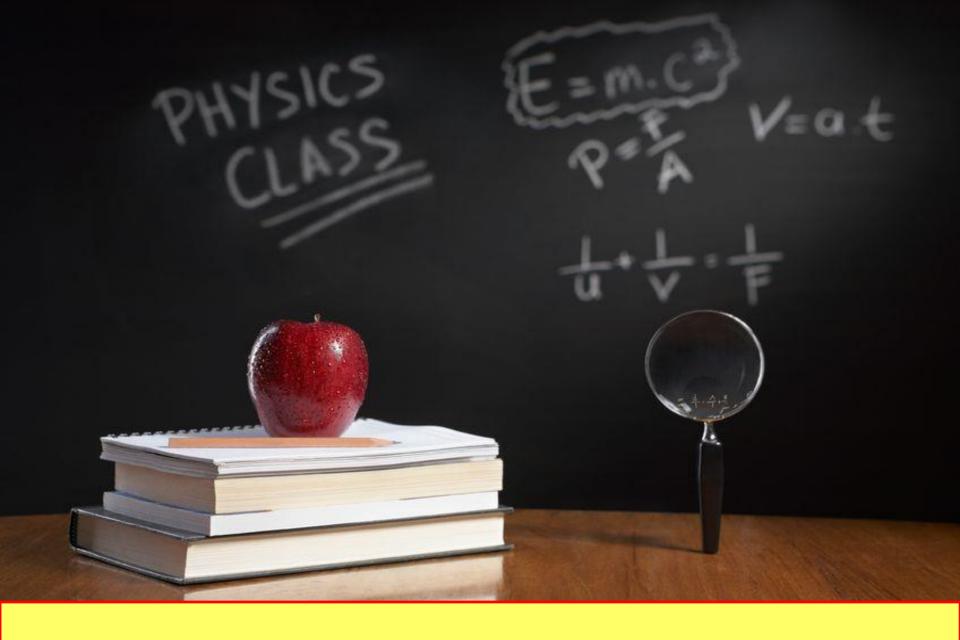
Core

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- Describe the composition of the nucleus in terms of protons and neutrons
- State the charges of protons and neutrons
- Use the term proton number Z
- Use the term nucleon number A
- Use the term nuclide and use the nuclide notation A ZX
- Use and explain the term isotope

Supplement

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- State the meaning of nuclear fission and nuclear fusion

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