

Periodic table symbols and names Printable PDF

Periodic table symbols and names are fundamental to understanding chemistry and the organization of elements. The periodic table provides a structured layout of all known chemical elements, each represented by a unique symbol and an official name. These symbols and names serve as universal identifiers for scientists, students, and researchers worldwide, facilitating clear communication and efficient documentation in scientific literature, laboratory work, and educational materials. In this comprehensive guide, we will explore the significance of periodic table symbols and names, delve into their history, and provide detailed insights into the most common elements, their symbols, and their properties.

Understanding Periodic Table Symbols and Names

What Are Periodic Table Symbols?

Periodic table symbols are shorthand abbreviations assigned to each chemical element. Typically composed of one or two letters, these symbols are derived from the element's English name, Latin name, or other historical origins. The first letter is always capitalized, and if a second letter is present, it is lowercase.

Why Are Symbols Important?

Symbols streamline scientific communication and documentation, allowing quick identification of elements in chemical formulas, reactions, and research papers. They also provide a standardized language that transcends linguistic barriers among scientists worldwide.

What Are Element Names?

Element names are the official titles assigned to chemical elements by the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC). These names often honor scientists, places, properties, or mythological concepts, and they are used alongside symbols to identify elements uniquely.

History of Periodic Table Symbols and Names

The development of the periodic table and its symbols dates back to the 19th century. Mendeleev's periodic table laid the groundwork for organizing elements based on atomic weights and properties. Early symbols were often derived from Latin or Greek names, such as:

- **Au** for Gold (from Latin "Aurum")
- **Ag** for Silver (from Latin "Argentum")
- **Pb** for Lead (from Latin "Plumbum")

Over time, the symbols became more standardized, especially after the adoption of IUPAC guidelines, ensuring consistency across scientific disciplines.

Common Elements, Their Symbols, and Names

Major Elements and Their Symbols

Below is an overview of some of the most prevalent elements, their symbols, and their primary uses:

- **Hydrogen (H)**: The lightest element, vital in water and organic compounds.
- **Helium (He)**: Used in balloons and as a cooling medium in MRI machines.
- **Lithium (Li)**: Essential in rechargeable batteries and psychiatric medications.
- **Beryllium (Be)**: Used in aerospace materials due to its stiffness and light weight.
- **Boron (B)**: Used in borosilicate glass and semiconductors.
- **Carbon (C)**: The backbone of all organic life forms.
- **Nitrogen (N)**: Major component of Earth's atmosphere and fertilizers.
- **Oxygen (O)**: Essential for respiration and combustion.
- **Fluorine (F)**: Used in dental fluorides and refrigerants.
- **Neon (Ne)**: Famous for neon lighting displays.
- **Sodium (Na)**: Common in table salt and industrial processes.
- **Magnesium (Mg)**: Used in alloys and fireworks.
- **Aluminum (Al)**: Widely used in packaging, construction, and transportation.
- **Silicon (Si)**: The primary element in semiconductors and computer chips.
- **Phosphorus (P)**: Important in fertilizers and biological molecules.
- **Sulfur (S)**: Used in sulfuric acid, matches, and fertilizers.
- **Chlorine (Cl)**: Disinfectant and in the production of plastics.
- **Argon (Ar)**: Inert gas used in welding and lighting.
- **Potassium (K)**: Essential in plant nutrition and potassium compounds.
- **Calcium (Ca)**: Vital for bones, teeth, and industrial applications.
- **Iron (Fe)**: Key in construction and manufacturing steels.
- **Copper (Cu)**: Used in electrical wiring and plumbing.
- **Zinc (Zn)**: Coating for corrosion resistance and in alloys.
- **Silver (Ag)**: Used in jewelry, electronics, and photography.
- **Gold (Au)**: Valued in jewelry and investment.
- **Uranium (U)**: Used in nuclear energy and weaponry.

Less Common Elements and Their Symbols

In addition to the familiar elements, the periodic table includes less common and synthetic elements, such as:

- **Einsteinium (Es):** A synthetic element used mainly in research.
- **Fermium (Fm):** An element produced in nuclear reactors.
- **Oganesson (Og):** A highly unstable, synthetic element at the end of the noble gases.
- **Seaborgium (Sg):** Named after Glenn T. Seaborg, used mainly in scientific research.

These elements often have very limited practical applications and are produced in laboratories.

Understanding Element Symbols: Naming Conventions

The symbols of elements follow specific conventions:

- **One-Letter Symbols:** Used for the first 20 elements, e.g., H, O, N, C.
- **Two-Letter Symbols:** Usually derived from the element name or Latin origin, e.g., Fe (Ferrum), Au (Aurum).
- **Latin and Greek Origins:** Many symbols are based on Latin or Greek names; for example:
 - **Pb** for Lead (Latin "Plumbum")
 - **Sn** for Tin (Latin "Stannum")

The International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) maintains and updates these symbols as new elements are discovered and verified.

How To Use Periodic Table Symbols Effectively

To maximize understanding and accuracy in scientific work, consider these tips:

- **Memorize common symbols:** Focus on the first 20 elements and frequently used metals and nonmetals.
- **Understand the origin:** Knowing Latin or Greek roots can help decipher unfamiliar symbols.
- **Use official IUPAC standards:** Always refer to the latest periodic table for official symbols.
- **Practice reading chemical formulas:** Recognize symbols to interpret compounds quickly.

Conclusion

The symbols and names of elements in the periodic table are vital tools in the world of chemistry. They offer a standardized language that simplifies complex information, fosters international collaboration, and enhances scientific literacy. Whether you are a student beginning your chemistry journey or a seasoned researcher, understanding these symbols and their origins enriches your appreciation of the periodic table's elegance and utility. Continuous learning about new elements, their symbols, and their properties ensures you stay updated in this ever-evolving scientific field.

By familiarizing yourself with the periodic table symbols and names, you gain a deeper insight into the building blocks of matter that make up our universe.

Periodic table symbols and names serve as the universal language of chemistry, allowing scientists and students worldwide to communicate complex information about elements efficiently. These symbols and names form the foundation of chemical notation, facilitating everything from academic research and industrial applications to everyday understanding of the substances that comprise our universe. Understanding the periodic table symbols and names is essential for anyone looking to deepen their grasp of chemistry, as they encapsulate the unique identity and properties of each element in a concise, standardized format.

Introduction to the Periodic Table Symbols and Names

The periodic table is a systematic arrangement of chemical elements, organized based on increasing atomic number and recurring chemical properties. Each element is represented by a chemical symbol, often derived from its English or Latin name, and a full element name. These symbols are universally recognized, allowing scientists across different languages and regions to communicate effectively.

Why Are Symbols and Names Important?

- Standardization: Symbols and names ensure consistency in scientific communication.
- Efficiency: Short symbols simplify complex chemical formulas.
- Educational Clarity: They serve as mnemonic devices for learning element properties.
- Data Representation: Essential for representing reactions, compounds, and molecular structures.

The Structure of Element Symbols

Typical Format of Symbols

Most chemical symbols consist of one or two letters:

- The first letter is always capitalized.
- The second letter, if present, is lowercase.

Origin of Symbols

Symbols are often derived from:

- English names (e.g., Hydrogen ? H)
- Latin names (e.g., Sodium ? Na from Natrium)
- Greek roots (e.g., Iron ? Fe from Ferrum)
- Historical conventions established by early chemists

Examples of Element Symbols

Element Name	Symbol	Origin/Notes
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Hydrogen	H	From English "Hydrogen"
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Helium	He	From "Helios," Greek sun god
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Sodium	Na	From Latin "Natrium"
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Iron	Fe	From Latin "Ferrum"
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Gold	Au	From Latin "Aurum"
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Silver	Ag	From Latin "Argentum"
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Carbon	C	Derived from Latin "Carbo"
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The Complete List of Periodic Table Symbols

The periodic table contains over 100 elements, each with its unique symbol. Here's an overview of some key elements categorized by their groups or properties:

Alkali Metals (Group 1)

- Lithium (Li)
- Sodium (Na)
- Potassium (K)
- Rubidium (Rb)
- Cesium (Cs)
- Francium (Fr)

Alkaline Earth Metals (Group 2)

- Beryllium (Be)
- Magnesium (Mg)
- Calcium (Ca)
- Strontium (Sr)
- Barium (Ba)
- Radium (Ra)

Transition Metals

- Iron (Fe)
- Copper (Cu)
- Nickel (Ni)
- Zinc (Zn)
- Silver (Ag)
- Gold (Au)

Lanthanides and Actinides

- Lanthanum (La)
- Cerium (Ce)
- Uranium (U)
- Plutonium (Pu)

Halogens (Group 17)

- Fluorine (F)
- Chlorine (Cl)
- Bromine (Br)
- Iodine (I)
- Astatine (At)

Noble Gases (Group 18)

- Helium (He)
- Neon (Ne)
- Argon (Ar)
- Krypton (Kr)
- Xenon (Xe)
- Radon (Rn)

The Significance of Element Names

While symbols are concise, the full element names provide more context, often reflecting the element's properties, discoverer, or place of discovery.

Common Naming Patterns

- Descriptive names (e.g., Carbon, from Latin Carbo, meaning "coal")
- Named after places (e.g., Californium from California)
- Named after scientists (e.g., Curium from Marie and Pierre Curie)
- Named for mythological or celestial references (e.g., Helium from Greek Helios)

Examples of Names and Their Origins

Element	Name Origin
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Helium	Named after Greek sun god Helios
Curium	Named after Marie Curie
Californium	Named after California

| Thorium | Named after Thor, Norse god of thunder |

| Niobium | Named after Niobe, daughter of Tantalus |

How Elements Are Named and Symbolized: A Historical Perspective

Historically, the naming and symbolization of elements have evolved through scientific discoveries and international consensus. Early chemists used Latin and Greek to create standardized symbols, which remain in use today.

Evolution of Periodic Table Symbols

- Early symbols were often abbreviations of Latin names (e.g., Au for "Aurum" for gold).
- Standardization was achieved through organizations like IUPAC (International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry).
- Regular updates incorporate newly discovered elements, often named after scientists, places, or mythological figures.

Tips for Learning and Remembering Symbols and Names

- Use Mnemonics: Create memory aids linking symbols to their names.
- Flashcards: Regular practice with flashcards helps reinforce recognition.
- Group Study: Learning elements by their groups can help associate properties and symbols.
- Visualization: Use periodic table charts to visualize element placement.
- Relate to Real-world Examples: Connect elements to their common uses (e.g., C for Carbon in diamonds, Au in jewelry).

Conclusion: The Power of Periodic Table Symbols and Names

Mastering the periodic table symbols and names is a fundamental step in understanding chemistry. These symbols condense complex information into a universally recognized language that facilitates scientific discovery, education, and communication across borders. Whether you're a student beginning your chemistry journey or a seasoned researcher, familiarity with these symbols enhances your ability to interpret data, understand reactions, and appreciate the intricate organization of matter itself.

By exploring the origins, patterns, and significance of element symbols and names, you gain a deeper appreciation for the elegance and logic embedded within the periodic table. Embrace the learning process, and over time, these symbols will become second nature?unlocking the secrets of

the elements that build our universe.

Question What is the symbol for Gold in the periodic table? The symbol for Gold is Au. Which element has the symbol 'O' and what is its name? The symbol 'O' stands for Oxygen. How many elements are currently listed in the periodic table? As of now, there are 118 confirmed elements in the periodic table. What is the symbol for the element with atomic number 1? The element with atomic number 1 is Hydrogen, and its symbol is H. Which element has the symbol 'Fe' and what is its common name? The symbol 'Fe' stands for Iron. What element is represented by the symbol 'C'? The symbol 'C' represents Carbon. Are the symbols for elements always one or two letters? Most element symbols are either one or two letters, with the first letter always capitalized and the second letter, if any, lowercase. What element has the symbol 'Na' and what is its common name? The symbol 'Na' stands for Sodium. How are element symbols derived? Element symbols are typically derived from their English or Latin names, often abbreviated to one or two letters. What is the significance of the color coding in the periodic table symbols? Color coding in the periodic table often indicates element categories such as metals, nonmetals, metalloids, or states of matter, helping to quickly identify their properties.

Related keywords: chemical elements, element symbols, periodic table, atomic symbols, element names, chemical notation, periodic table layout, element abbreviations, chemical elements list, periodic table symbols

The periodic table and periodic law glencoe

the periodic table and periodic law glencoe

The periodic table and periodic law are fundamental concepts in the field of chemistry, serving as essential tools for understanding the properties and relationships of chemical elements. The "Glencoe" reference pertains to the widely used educational materials and textbooks published by Glencoe/McGraw-Hill, which have played a significant role in teaching students about the organization and significance of the periodic table. This article explores the historical development, structure, and significance of the periodic table and periodic law, with specific insights drawn from the Glencoe educational approach.

Historical Development of the Periodic Table

Early Attempts and Discoveries

The journey to the modern periodic table began in the 19th century, as scientists sought to organize

the rapidly growing list of known elements. Early chemists such as John Newlands proposed the Law of Octaves in 1864, observing that elements exhibited similar properties every eighth element when arranged by increasing atomic mass. Although this idea was limited, it laid the groundwork for recognizing periodicity in elemental properties.

Mendeleev's Periodic Table

Dmitri Mendeleev is credited with creating the first widely recognized periodic table in 1869. He arranged elements according to increasing atomic mass and grouped elements with similar properties into columns. Notably, Mendeleev left gaps for yet undiscovered elements and predicted their properties accurately, which validated his periodic law. His table was revolutionary in emphasizing periodicity and the relationships among elements.

Refinement and Modernization

As scientific understanding evolved, particularly with the discovery of atomic number by Henry Moseley in 1913, the periodic table was reorganized to reflect atomic number rather than atomic mass. This change resolved inconsistencies and led to the modern periodic table we use today.

The Periodic Law

Definition and Significance

The periodic law states that the properties of elements are periodic functions of their atomic numbers. In simpler terms, when elements are arranged by increasing atomic number, elements with similar properties appear at regular intervals. This law underscores the periodic nature of elemental properties and provides a systematic way to predict the characteristics of elements.

Implications of the Periodic Law

- It explains the recurring patterns in properties such as atomic radius, ionization energy, electronegativity, and chemical reactivity.
- It allows scientists to classify elements into groups (families) with similar behaviors.
- It facilitates the prediction of properties of undiscovered elements based on their position in the table.

The Structure of the Modern Periodic Table

Layout and Organization

The modern periodic table is arranged in a grid format with rows called periods and columns called groups or families.

- **Periods:** Horizontal rows numbered from 1 to 7, representing increasing energy levels.
- **Groups/Families:** Vertical columns numbered from 1 to 18, indicating elements with similar chemical properties.

Key Features of the Table

- The table is divided into blocks based on electron configurations: s-block, p-block, d-block, and f-block.
- Elements are ordered by increasing atomic number.
- The table highlights element groups with similar valence electron configurations, which determine chemical behavior.

Major Classifications of Elements

- **Metals:** Located on the left and center, conductive, malleable, and ductile.
- **Nonmetals:** Found on the right, generally poor conductors and more likely to gain electrons.
- **Metalloids:** Elements with properties intermediate between metals and nonmetals, found along the zigzag line.

Significance of the Periodic Table in Chemistry Education

Educational Approach in Glencoe Materials

The Glencoe textbooks emphasize a clear understanding of the periodic table's organization and its underlying principles. They focus on:

- Teaching students how to read and interpret the table.
- Understanding periodic trends and their explanations.
- Recognizing the importance of electron configurations in determining element properties.

Teaching Strategies

- Use of visual aids and interactive activities to help memorize groups and periods.

- Connecting periodic trends to real-world applications.
- Encouraging students to predict properties of unknown elements based on their position.

Periodic Trends and Their Explanations

Atomic Radius

- Decreases across a period due to increasing nuclear charge pulling electrons closer.
- Increases down a group as additional electron shells are added.

Ionization Energy

- The energy required to remove an electron.
- Increases across a period as electrons are held more tightly.
- Decreases down a group as outer electrons are farther from the nucleus and less tightly bound.

Electronegativity

- Measures an atom's ability to attract electrons.
- Increases across a period.
- Decreases down a group.

Electron Affinity

- The energy change when an atom gains an electron.
- Trends similar to electronegativity.

Applications of the Periodic Table

Predicting Chemical Behavior

The periodic table allows chemists to predict how elements will react, form bonds, and participate in chemical reactions based on their position.

Discovering New Elements

Understanding periodic trends guides scientists in synthesizing new elements and placing them

within the existing table.

Material Science and Industry

Elements' properties inform their applications in technology, medicine, energy, and manufacturing.

Conclusion

The periodic table and periodic law are cornerstones of chemical science, providing a systematic framework for understanding the relationships among elements. The work of early scientists like Mendeleev, combined with modern discoveries such as the atomic number, has led to the sophisticated and comprehensive periodic table used today. Educational resources like Glencoe have played a vital role in imparting this knowledge to students, emphasizing the importance of organization, periodic trends, and the predictive power of the table. As science continues to evolve, the periodic table remains a dynamic and invaluable tool, reflecting the ongoing quest to understand the fundamental building blocks of matter.

The periodic table and periodic law Glencoe represent foundational concepts in modern chemistry, serving as essential tools for understanding the properties, behaviors, and relationships of elements. Their development and organization have profoundly influenced scientific research, education, and technological advancements. This comprehensive review explores the origins, structure, principles, and significance of the periodic table and periodic law as presented in Glencoe chemistry resources, providing an in-depth analysis suitable for students, educators, and enthusiasts alike.

Introduction to the Periodic Table and Periodic Law

The periodic table is often regarded as the blueprint of chemical elements, systematically arranging them based on shared properties and atomic characteristics. Paired with the periodic law—a guiding principle stating that element properties are periodic functions of their atomic numbers—this organizational framework reveals patterns that underpin chemical behavior.

Historical Context

The journey toward the modern periodic table began in the 19th century, as scientists sought to classify the rapidly increasing number of discovered elements. Early efforts by Dmitri Mendeleev laid the groundwork, proposing a table that grouped elements by atomic mass and periodic properties. Although initial versions faced challenges—such as inconsistencies in atomic weights—subsequent discoveries, especially the identification of atomic numbers, solidified the current organization.

Significance in Chemistry

The periodic table facilitates the prediction of element properties, identification of trends across periods and groups, and understanding of chemical reactions. It acts as both a reference and a predictive tool, enabling chemists to anticipate behaviors of elements and compounds.

Development of the Periodic Law

From Atomic Mass to Atomic Number

Initially, the periodic law was based on atomic masses, with Mendeleev's pioneering work arranging elements in order of increasing atomic weight. However, anomalies in the order—such as the placement of tellurium and iodine—highlighted limitations of atomic mass as the primary organizing principle.

The breakthrough came with the discovery of the proton and the realization that atomic number (number of protons) provides a more accurate basis for organization. This shift led to the modern periodic law:

"The properties of the elements are periodic functions of their atomic numbers."

Implications of the Modern Periodic Law

This law underpins the current periodic table, explaining why elements with similar properties recur periodically when arranged by increasing atomic number. It also accounts for the periodic trends observed in atomic and physical properties, such as ionization energy, electronegativity, and atomic radius.

Structure of the Periodic Table

The periodic table's structure reflects the periodic law, organizing elements into rows and columns that group elements with similar characteristics.

Periods and Groups

- Periods: Horizontal rows numbered 1 through 7. Elements in the same period have the same number of electron shells but vary in their properties across the period.

- Groups (Families): Vertical columns numbered 1 through 18 (or 1-12 in older tables). Elements within a group share similar valence electron configurations, leading to comparable chemical behaviors.

Blocks of the Periodic Table

The table is subdivided into blocks based on the electron subshell being filled:

- s-block: Groups 1 and 2, plus hydrogen and helium.
- p-block: Groups 13-18.
- d-block: Transition metals (Groups 3-10).
- f-block: Lanthanides and actinides, often displayed separately beneath the main table.

Element Categories

- Metals: Located mainly on the left and center; characterized by high electrical conductivity, malleability, and ductility.
- Nonmetals: Found on the right; generally insulators and brittle.
- Metalloids: Positioned along the zigzag line; exhibit mixed properties.

Periodic Trends and Properties

Understanding how element properties vary across the periodic table reveals underlying atomic structure influences and facilitates predictions about element behavior.

Atomic Radius

- Trend: Decreases across a period (left to right), increases down a group.
- Explanation: Increasing nuclear charge pulls electrons closer; additional electron shells appear down a group, enlarging atomic size.

Ionization Energy

- Trend: Increases across a period, decreases down a group.
- Significance: Reflects the energy required to remove an electron; higher in elements with stronger nuclear attraction.

Electronegativity

- Trend: Rises across a period, falls down a group.

- Implication: Indicates an atom's tendency to attract electrons in chemical bonds.

Electron Affinity

- Trend: Generally increases across a period.
- Note: Variations exist based on element type and electronic configuration.

Glencoe Resources and Teaching of the Periodic Table

The Glencoe series provides comprehensive educational materials that elucidate the periodic table's organization, properties, and applications.

Key Features of Glencoe's Approach

- Visual Aids: Color-coded tables, diagrams, and interactive models to help students grasp complex concepts.
- Historical Context: Emphasizes the evolution of the periodic table, fostering a deeper understanding of scientific progress.
- Practice Problems: Exercises that reinforce trends, classifications, and the application of periodic law.
- Real-World Applications: Demonstrates how the periodic table informs fields like medicine, materials science, and environmental science.

Educational Strategies

- Using comparative analysis to highlight periodic trends.
- Incorporating laboratory activities to observe properties such as reactivity.
- Encouraging critical thinking about the periodic law's implications in modern chemistry.

Significance of the Periodic Table and Periodic Law

The periodic table is not merely a catalog of elements; it embodies the fundamental principles governing chemical behavior. Its predictive power allows scientists to:

- Discover new elements by extrapolating periodic trends.
- Understand elemental reactivity and compound formation.
- Develop new materials with desired properties.

- Advance fields like nanotechnology, pharmacology, and energy storage.

Moreover, the periodic law emphasizes the interconnectedness of atomic structure and chemical properties, illustrating nature's inherent order and symmetry.

Future Perspectives and Innovations

Advances in computational chemistry and experimental techniques continue to refine our understanding of the periodic table. Notably:

- Extended Periodic Tables: Efforts to synthesize superheavy elements expand the boundaries of the table, challenging existing theories.
- Periodic Law Revisions: Ongoing research explores whether alternative organizing principles might better capture emerging properties.
- Educational Enhancements: Digital tools and virtual labs enhance comprehension and engagement with periodic concepts.

Conclusion

The periodic table and periodic law, as detailed in Glencoe resources, constitute the backbone of chemical science. They encapsulate the elegant patterns governing elements and serve as powerful frameworks for scientific exploration and innovation. By understanding their development, structure, and significance, students and scientists alike gain insights into the fundamental nature of matter, fostering curiosity and driving future discoveries in chemistry and related disciplines.

Question What is the main purpose of the periodic table according to Glencoe's Periodic Law? The main purpose of the periodic table is to organize elements based on their atomic number and properties, revealing periodic trends and relationships among elements. **Answer** How does Glencoe's approach explain the periodic law? Glencoe explains the periodic law as the periodic repetition of chemical and physical properties of elements when they are arranged in order of increasing atomic number. What are the key features of the periodic table highlighted in Glencoe's curriculum? Key features include the arrangement of elements into periods and groups, the classification into metals, nonmetals, and metalloids, and the periodic trends such as electronegativity and atomic radius. How does the periodic law help in predicting properties of elements in Glencoe's lessons? The periodic law allows scientists to predict properties of elements based on their position in the table, such as reactivity, atomic size, and ionization energy, by analyzing their periodic trends. What role do atomic numbers play in the organization of the periodic table as per Glencoe's explanation? Atomic numbers serve as the fundamental organizing principle, with elements arranged sequentially by increasing atomic number, which underpins the periodicity of their properties.

Related keywords: periodic table, periodic law, glencoe chemistry, element groups, periodic trends, atomic structure, element symbols, atomic number, chemical elements, periodic table layout

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