Chapter 2: The Periodic Table

Knowledge organiser

Development of the Periodic Table

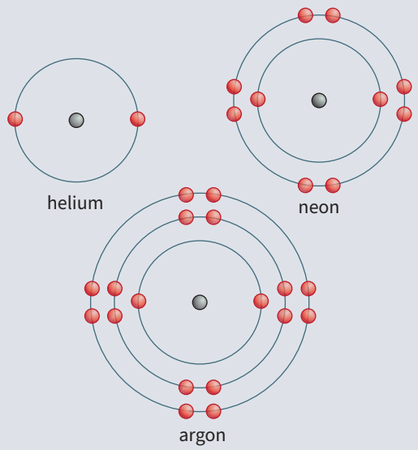
The Periodic Table has changed over time as scientists have organised it differently. Mendeleev was able to accurately predict the properties of undiscovered elements based on the gaps in the table.

	First lists of elements	Mendeleev's Periodic Table	Modern Periodic Table
How are elements ordered?	by atomic mass	normally by atomic mass but some elements were swapped around	by atomic number
Are there gaps?	no gaps	gaps left for undiscovered elements	no gaps – all elements up to a certain atomic number have been discovered
How are elements grouped?	not grouped	grouped by chemical properties	grouped by the number of electrons in the outer shells
Metals and non-metals	no clear distinction	no clear distinction	metals to the left, non-metals to the right
Problems	some elements grouped inappropriately	incomplete, with no explanation for why some elements had to be swapped to fit in the appropriate groups	—

Group 0

Elements in **Group 0** are called the **noble gases**. Noble gases have the following properties:

- full outer shells with eight electrons, so do not need to lose or gain electrons
- are very unreactive (**inert**) so exist as single atoms as they do not bond to form molecules
- boiling points that increase down the group.



Key terms

Make sure you can write a definition for these key terms.

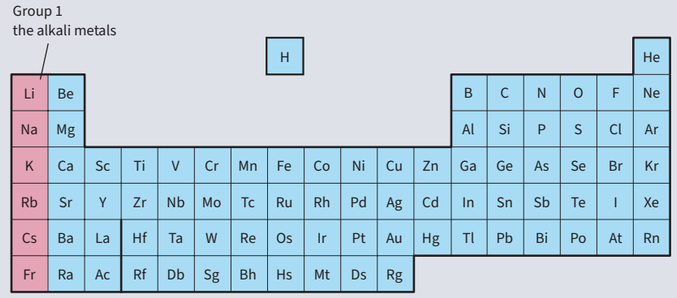
alkali metals chemical properties displacement groups halogens inert isotopes noble gas organised Periodic Table reactivity undiscovered unreactive

Group 1 elements

Group 1 elements react with oxygen, chlorine, and water, for example:

lithium + oxygen → lithium oxide
lithium + chlorine → lithium chloride
lithium + water → lithium hydroxide + hydrogen

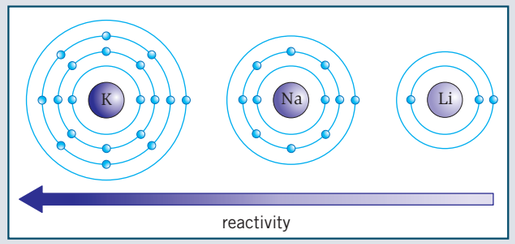
Group 1 elements are called **alkali metals** because they react with water to form an alkali (a solution of their metal hydroxide).



Group 1 properties

Group 1 elements all have one electron in their outer shell.
Reactivity increases down Group 1 because as you move down the group:

- the atoms increase in size
- the outer electron is further away from the nucleus, and there are more shells shielding the outer electron from the nucleus
- the electrostatic attraction between the nucleus and the outer electron is weaker so it is easier to lose the one outer electron
- the melting point and boiling point decreases down Group 1.



Group 7 elements

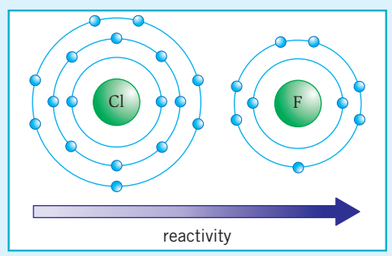
Group 7 elements are called the **halogens**. They are non-metals that exist as molecules made up of pairs of atoms.

Name	Formula	State at room temperature	Melting point and boiling point	Reactivity
fluorine	F_2	gas	increases down the group	decreases down the group
chlorine	Cl_2	gas		
bromine	Br_2	liquid		
iodine	I_2	solid		

Group 7 reactivity

Reactivity decreases down Group 7 because as you move down the group:

- the atoms increase in size
- the outer shell is further away from the nucleus, and there are more shells between the nucleus and the outer shell
- the electrostatic attraction from the nucleus to the outer shell is weaker so it is harder to gain one electron to fill the outer shell.



Group 7 displacement

More reactive Group 7 elements can take the place of less reactive ones in a compound. This is called **displacement**.
For example, fluorine displaces chlorine as it is more reactive:

fluorine + potassium chloride → potassium fluoride + chlorine

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Retrieval questions

Learn the answers to the questions below then cover the answers column with a piece of paper and write as many as you can. Check and repeat.

	C2 questions	Answers
1	How is the modern Periodic Table ordered?	by atomic number
2	How were the early lists of elements ordered?	by atomic mass
3	Why did Mendeleev swap the order of some elements?	to group them by their chemical properties
4	Why did Mendeleev leave gaps in his Periodic Table?	leave room for elements that had not yet been discovered
5	Why do elements in a group have similar chemical properties?	have the same number of electrons in their outer shell
6	Where are metals and non-metals located on the Periodic Table?	metals to the left, non-metals to the right
7	What name is given to the Group 1 elements?	alkali metals
8	Why are the alkali metals named this?	they are metals that react with water to form an alkali
9	Give the general equations for the reactions of alkali metals with oxygen, chlorine, and water.	metal + oxygen → metal oxide metal + chlorine → metal chloride metal + water → metal hydroxide + hydrogen
10	How does the reactivity of the alkali metals change down the group?	increases (more reactive)
11	Why does the reactivity of the alkali metals increase down the group?	they are larger atoms, so the outermost electron is further from the nucleus, meaning there are weaker electrostatic forces of attraction and more shielding between the nucleus and outer electron, and it is easier to lose the electron
12	What name is given to the Group 7 elements?	halogens
13	Give the formulae of the first four halogens.	F_2, Cl_2, Br_2, I_2
14	How do the melting points of the halogens change down the group?	increase (higher melting point)
15	How does the reactivity of the halogens change down the group?	decrease (less reactive)
16	Why does the reactivity of the halogens decrease down the group?	they are larger atoms, so the outermost shell is further from the nucleus, meaning there are weaker electrostatic forces of attraction and more shielding between the nucleus and outer shell, and it is harder to gain an electron
17	What is a displacement reaction?	when a more reactive element takes the place of a less reactive one in a compound
18	What name is given to the Group 0 elements?	noble gases
19	Why are the noble gases inert?	they have full outer shells so do not need to lose or gain electrons
20	How do the melting points of the noble gases change down the group?	increase (higher melting point)

Put paper here