

Category 1 – Matter and Energy

8-5A
8-5B

STRUCTURE OF ATOMS AND IDENTITY OF ELEMENTS CR

matter: anything that has mass and takes up space

atom: smallest complete part (building block) of matter

Atom Part	Location	Mass	Electrical Charge
proton	nucleus (center)	~1 amu	positive, +
neutron	nucleus (center)	~1 amu	neutral/no charge
electron	electron cloud*	~1/2000 amu	negative, -

*mostly empty space surrounding nucleus where electrons move

Note: An atom's mass is mostly in its nucleus (center). An atomic mass unit ("amu") is about (-) equal

element: substance made of only one kind of atom

Examples: copper wire: Cu; iron: Fe

chemical symbol: element's first letter is capitalized and second letter is lowercase

Examples: gold's symbol is Au; silver's symbol is Ag

atomic number: number of protons in the nucleus; determines the identity of an element (no two elements have the same atomic number)

atomic mass: the average mass of an element's atoms

Example: How many protons does Lithium have?

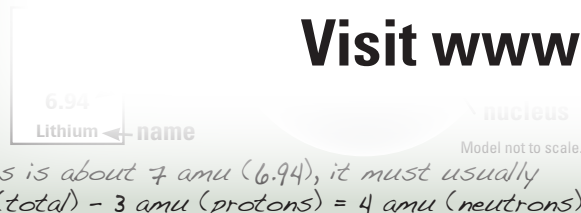
How do you know the atom model is of lithium? *it shows 3 protons (+)*

How many electrons does Lithium have?

3 (equal to protons)

How could the usual number of neutrons be calculated from the data?

because the atomic mass is about 7 amu (6.94), it must usually have 4 neutrons: 7 amu (total) - 3 amu (protons) = 4 amu (neutrons)



SAMPLE

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periodic table: chart that organizes elements based on their properties

• **group:** vertical column; elements have same number of valence electrons and, therefore, similar chemical properties; a group is also called a family

Examples: Each element in group 1A or 1 (alkali metal family), such as lithium (Li) or sodium (Na), has one valence electron and is highly reactive. Each element in group 8A or 18 (noble gases family) has a full outer level of electrons—2 for helium (He); 8 for neon (Ne), argon (Ar), krypton (Kr), xenon (Xe), and radon (Rn) – and is not reactive.

• **period:** horizontal row; elements in the same period have the same number of electron levels (period 2 elements have 2 electron levels)

Example: Lithium (Li). Its first electron level is to its right is beryllium (Be), which has a full second level. Lithium has one valence electron in its second level, which has a full second level. Lithium is the first element in period 2 with one valence electron in the third level.

Type	Physical Properties of Elements
metal	high luster/shiny; good conductor of heat/electricity; ductile (can draw into wire); malleable (can hammer/flatten); solid (except Hg)
metalloid	properties of metals and nonmetals; conducts heat/electricity under some conditions (semiconductors used in computer chips)
nonmetal	most are gases; solids are dull, poor conductors, and brittle

Examples: Identify whether each is a metal, nonmetal, or metalloid.

yellow block; crumbles into a powder when hit with hammer	nonmetal
silver block; dents when hammered; top gets hot soon after placing block on hot plate; can complete an electric circuit	metal
silver block; crumbles when hammered; slightly conductive	metalloid
solid material is reactive; element has 2 valence electrons	metal
gas is not reactive; each atom has 8 valence electrons	nonmetal
atom has 33 protons and 42 neutrons	metalloid

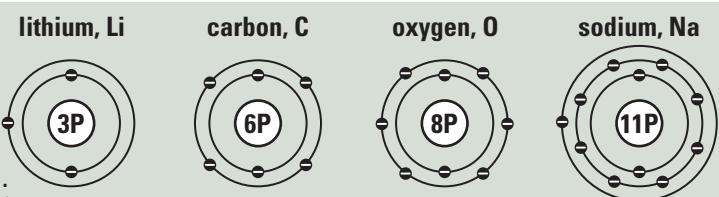
8-5B.C
6-6A

Symbol indicates section aligns to Texas College and Career Readiness Standards.

PROPERTIES OF ELEMENTS AND THE PERIODIC TABLE CR

valence electrons: electrons in element's outermost level (available for chemical reactions); number of valence electrons determines chemical properties, including **reactivity** (likelihood and rate of a chemical reaction)

Example: Which of these elements reacts most similarly to lithium? Explain.



sodium (Na), because it also has one valence electron.



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