Parts of an Atom

Atom - is electrically neutral.

- is composed of a nucleus containing protons and neutrons, and electrons that surround the nucleus.

Atomic Number - is the number of protons found in the nucleus of an atom

<u>Protons</u> - are subatomic particles possessing a positive charge.

Neutrons - are subatomic particles possessing a neutral charge.

<u>Electrons</u> - are subatomic particles possessing a negative charge. For an atom, the electrons are equal to the atomic number.

<u>Isotope</u>- is a form of an element in which the atoms have the same number of protons as all other forms of that element, but it has **adifferent number of neutrons and therefore a different atomic mass**

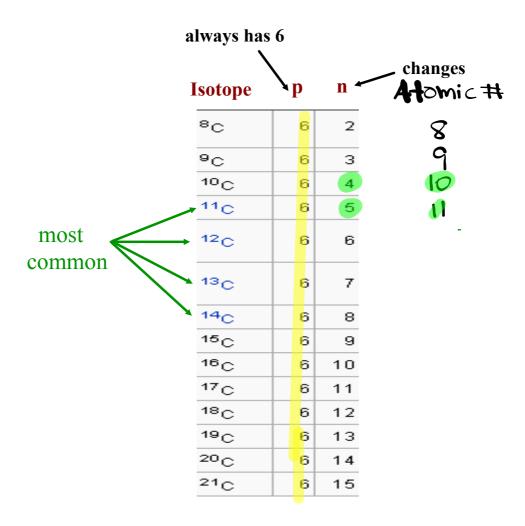
Mass Number - is the sum of the number of protons and neutrons.

Carbon - 6 protons and 6 neutrons has a mass number of 12.

Another isotope of ¹²C is ¹³C, which has 6 protons and 7 neutrons.

Isotope Notation:

Isotopes of Carbon



Calculating Atomic Mass

To calculate the atomic mass of an element, multiply the mass of each isotope by its natural abundance, expressed as a decimal, and then add the products.

Ex. Carbon has two stable isotopes: carbon - 12 (12.000 amu) which has natural abundance of 98.89%, and carbon - 13 (13.003 amu), which has natural abundance of 1.11%. What is the atomic mass of carbon?

$$12.000(0.9889) + 13.003(0.0111)$$

$$= 12.01$$

Sample Problem

Element X has two natural isotopes. The isotope with a mass of 10.012 amu (10 X) has a relative abundance of 19.91%. The isotope with a mass of 11.009 amu (11 X) has a relative abundance of 80.09%. Calculate the atomic mass of this element.

Homework

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