# Week 15 – SCIENCE NOTE PAGE

**Chemical Formulas & Equations** 

#### Remember, The Law of Conservation of Mass

The Law of Conservation of Mass states: the mass of substances does change during chemical reactions.

## Writing Chemical Formulas

- Chemical formulas represent the atoms of each element in a molecule of a substance
- Example:  $C_3H_8O =$  rubbing alcohol
- $C_3 = \_$  atoms of carbon  $H_8$  = atoms of hydrogen O = atom of oxygen

# Ionic Compound Formulas

- While ionic compounds deal with ions –charged atoms– the compound formulas are balanced or neutral with a charge of
- Example: Salt Sodium Chloride (NaCl)
  - 1. Sodium (Na) ion has a positive charge of one (Na1+)
  - 2. Chloride (Cl), has a negative charge of one (Cl1-).
  - 3. Positive and negative charges have the sum of zero if there is one sodium atom for every chlorine, so the formula NaCl is correct.

### Covalent Compound Formulas

For a covalent compound, the chemical formula shows how many \_\_\_\_\_\_ of each kind join together to form the molecules of the compound. Therefore, it is called a molecular formula. Number of atoms Prefix

are used to signal how many atoms of each element 0 are in the molecular formula.

- Example: Sulfur trioxide =  $SO_3$ 
  - TRY ONE: di-nitrogen tri-oxide

### Using Chemical Formulas to write Chemical Equations

- Chemical formulas (example: H<sub>2</sub>O) are used to write chemical •
- Just like a math equation, a chemical equation shows a relationship between substances on the left (reactants) and right (products) sides of the equation.
  - A " " sign means two substances are added together.
  - The " " is similar to an equal sign. ( $\rightarrow$  means "yields")
  - Example: the reaction of carbon and oxygen to form carbon dioxide.

C + O <sub>2</sub>	$\rightarrow$ CO <sub>2</sub>
reactants	product

Example: Aluminum is not found "pure" in nature. A chemical reaction is used to produce the aluminum for your aluminum foil. Here's the reaction and it's chemical equation:

aluminum chloride + potassium  $\rightarrow$  aluminum + potassium chloride

$$AICI_3 + K \rightarrow AI + KCI \rightarrow \_$$



1

2

4

5

6

8

9

mono

di-

tri-

tetra-

penta-

hexahepta-

octa-

nona-

• The equation tells you the basic facts of the reaction. But as written, this reaction violates a basic law of nature. Something is missing. What is it?

#### **Balancing Equations**

- Both sides of a chemical equation need to have the \_\_\_\_\_\_ number of <u>atoms of each element</u> for the equation to be \_\_\_\_\_\_.
- How to balance chemical equations:
  - 1. Write the chemical equation with chemical symbols.
  - 2. \_\_\_\_\_ the <u>number of atoms</u> of <u>each element</u> on <u>both sides</u> of the equation.

3. Balance atoms using <u>coefficients</u>. (A coefficient is a number placed \_\_\_\_\_\_ the element or compound.)

- 4. Check to make sure the equation is balanced.
- Example: balance the aluminum reaction

$$AICI_3 + K \rightarrow AI + KCI$$

 $\underline{\quad} AICI_3 + \underline{\quad} K \xrightarrow{} \underline{\quad} AI + \underline{\quad} KCI$