## Simple Nomenclature

## 1. Nomenclature of Ionic Compounds.

A) Naming Simple Cations

Simple cations are formed by removal of one or more electrons from a single atom.
Eg. $\mathrm{Na}^{+}, \mathrm{Mg}^{+2}, \mathrm{Cr}^{+3}$, etc.
The name of a simple cation consists of (1) the name of the element, (2) the charge on the cation written inside parentheses as a Roman numeral, and (3) the word "ion".

Eg. $\mathrm{Cr}^{+3}$ chromium(III) ion $\mathrm{Fe}^{+2}$ iron(II) ion $\quad \mathrm{Fe}^{+3}$ iron(III) ion
Some elements form only a single type of cation. These elements are:

- the IA metals, Li to Fr (all of which form only +1 ions);
- the IIA metals, Be to Ra (all of which form only +2 ions;
- and the elements Al (forms $+\mathbf{3}$ ions only) and Zn (forms $+\mathbf{2}$ ions only).

For elements that form only a single type of cation, the Roman numeral and parentheses are omitted and the element name and the word "ion" are used.

Eg. $\mathrm{Na}^{+}$sodium ion $\quad \mathrm{Mg}^{+2}$ magnesium ion $\quad \mathrm{Al}^{+3}$ aluminum ion
B) Naming Pseudo-Simple Cations

There are a number of cations that contain more than a single atom yet behave in a manner very similar to some simple cations. These pseudo-simple cations are named as if they were in fact simple cations.
You need to memorize: $\quad \mathbf{H}_{3} \mathbf{O}^{+}$hydronium ion $\quad \mathbf{N H}_{4}{ }^{+}$ammonium ion
C) Naming Simple Anions

Simple anions are formed by the addition of one or more electrons to a single atom.
Eg. $\quad \mathrm{F}^{-}, \mathrm{O}^{-2}, \mathrm{~N}^{-3}$, etc.
The name of a simple anion consists of (1) the root of the element name modified by the ending, (2) the ending "ide", and (3) the word "ion".
Eg. $\quad \mathrm{N}^{-3}$ nitride ion
$\mathrm{O}^{-2}$ oxide ion
$\mathrm{F}^{-}$fluoride ion

Each nonmetal element forms only a single type of simple anion and therefore, it is not necessary to include the charge in the name. It is necessary, however, to be familiar with the type of anion that each family forms.

| FAMILY NUMBER |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| VIA | VIIA |
| -2 | -1 |

D) Naming Pseudo-Simple Anions

Although a little more complex structurally than simple anions, pseudo-simple anions are named in the same manner. That is, with the "ide" ending.

You need to memorize:

| $\mathrm{OH}^{-}$ | hydroxide ion |
| :--- | :--- |
| $\mathrm{NH}_{2}^{-}$ | amide ion |
| $\mathrm{N}_{3}{ }^{-} \quad$ azide ion | $\mathrm{CN}^{-}$cyanide ion |
|  |  |

## E) Naming Complex Anions

These anions have a central atom surrounded by some number of oxygen atoms. Because of this, they are often referred to as "oxoanions". The method used to name these anions is too complex for discussion at this time and therefore we must rely on memorization instead. The complex anions that you should become familiar with are (i.e., memorize):

F) Naming Ionic Compounds

The name of an ionic compound consists of (1) the name of the cation followed by (2) the name of the anion. The word "ion" is omitted from the ion names.

Eg. $\mathrm{Cu}\left(\mathrm{NO}_{3}\right)_{2}$ copper(II) nitrate $\quad \mathrm{Na}_{2} \mathrm{HPO}_{4}$ sodium hydrogenphosphate
$\begin{array}{llll}\mathrm{FeO} & \text { iron(II) oxide } & \mathrm{Fe}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{3} \quad \text { iron(III) oxide }\end{array}$

## 2. Nomenclature of Binary Molecular Compounds.

A binary molecular compounds contains atoms of only two elements. The system for naming such compounds is based on the use of prefixes.

| Number of Atoms <br> in Formula |  | Prefix |
| :---: | :--- | :--- |
|  |  | --- |
| 2 |  | di |
| 3 |  | tri |
| 4 |  | tetra |
| 5 |  | penta |
| 6 |  | hexa |
| 7 |  | hepta |
| 8 |  | octa |
| 9 | nona |  |
| 10 | deca |  |
| 11 |  | undeca |
| 12 |  | dodeca |

The name of binary molecular compounds consists of (1) the appropriate prefix to indicate the number of atoms of the first element in the formula, (2) the name of the first element,
(3) the appropriate prefix to indicate the number of atoms of the second element in the formula,
(4) the root of the name of the second element modified by (5) the ending "ide".

Eg. $\mathrm{N}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{3}$ dinitrogen trioxide* $\quad \mathrm{P}_{4} \mathrm{~S}_{6}$ tetraphosphorus hexasulfide

* Note: When the second element is oxygen the "a" on the end of the prefix is omitted.

Eg. $\quad \mathrm{N}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{5}$ is dinitrogen pentoxide and NOT dinitrogen pent a oxide.

Simple Nomenclature Homework

1. Name the following cations.
a) $\mathrm{Ca}^{+2}$
b) $\mathrm{Li}^{+}$
c) $\mathrm{Fe}^{+3}$
d) $\mathrm{Ga}^{+}$
e) $\mathrm{Cu}^{+2}$
f) $\mathrm{Ag}^{+}$
g) $\mathrm{Ti}^{+2}$
h) $\mathrm{V}^{+2}$
i) $\mathrm{NH}_{4}^{+}$
j) $\mathrm{Zn}^{+2}$
2. Give the formula for the following cations.
a) manganese(III) ion
b) hydronium ion
c) beryllium ion
d) cobalt(II) ion
e) scandium(III) ion
f) zinc ion
3. Name the following anions.
a) $\mathrm{OH}^{-}$
b) $\mathrm{S}^{-2}$
c) $\mathrm{P}^{-3}$
d) $\mathrm{H}^{-}$
e) $\mathrm{Cl}^{-}$
f) $\mathrm{CO}_{3}{ }^{-2}$
g) $\mathrm{NO}_{3}^{-}$
h) $\mathrm{SO}_{4}^{-2}$
i) $\mathrm{PO}_{4}^{-3}$
j) $\mathrm{I}^{-}$
4. Give the formulas for the following anions.
a) amide ion
b) sulfite ion
c) oxide ion
d) nitride ion
e) arsenide ion
f) fluoride ion
5. Name the following ionic compounds.
a) LiCN
b) $\mathrm{NaHSO}_{4}$
c) $\mathrm{AlPO}_{3}$
d) FeO
e) $\mathrm{CuF}_{2}$
f) $\mathrm{VCl}_{3}$
g) $\mathrm{MnI}_{2}$
h) $\mathrm{Cr}_{2}\left(\mathrm{SO}_{4}\right)_{3}$
i) $\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{Se}$
j) $\mathrm{NH}_{4} \mathrm{Br}$
6. Give the formulas for the following ionic compounds.
a) aluminum sulfate
b) ammonium carbonate
c) chromium(III) sulfide
d) chromium(III) oxide
e) calcium dihydrogenphosphate
f) nickel(II) hydroxide
7. Name the following molecules.
a) $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$
b) $\mathrm{S}_{4} \mathrm{~N}_{4}$
c) $\mathrm{IF}_{7}$
d) $\mathrm{SF}_{6}$
e) $\mathrm{N}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{5}$
f) $\mathrm{Se}_{2} \mathrm{~F}_{10}$
g) $\mathrm{SO}_{3}$
h) $\mathrm{P}_{4} \mathrm{~S}_{8}$
i) $\mathrm{I}_{4} \mathrm{O}_{9}$
j) $\mathrm{BF}_{3}$
8. Give the formulas for the following molecular compounds.
a) carbon disulfide
b) bromine pentafluoride
c) dinitrogen tetroxide
d) phosphorus pentachloride
e) iodine tribromide
f) tetraphosphorus hexoxide

Simple Nomenclature Answer Key

1. See "SIMPLE NOMENCLATURE" section 1 A \& B.
a) calciumion*
b) lithium ion *
c) iron(III) ion
d) gallium(I) ion
e) copper(II) ion
f) silver(I) ion
g) titanium(II) ion
h) vanadium(II) ion
i) ammonium ion **
j) zinc ion*

* Note: These elements form only a single type of cation so the roman numeral and parentheses are omitted.
** Note: This is a pseudo-simple cation the name and formula of which must be memorized.

2. See "SIMPLE NOMENCLATURE" section 1 A \& B.
a) $\mathrm{Mn}^{+3}$
b) $\mathrm{H}_{3} \mathrm{O}^{+} *$
c) $\mathrm{Be}^{+2}$
d) $\mathrm{Co}^{+2}$
e) $\mathrm{Sc}^{+3}$
f) $\mathrm{Zn}^{+2}$

* Note: This is a pseudo-simple cation the name and formula of which must be memorized.

3. See "SIMPLE NOMENCLATURE" section 1 C, D \& E.
a) hydroxide ion *
b) sulfide ion
c) phosphide ion
d) hydride ion
e) chloride ion
f) carbonate ion **
g) nitrate ion **
h) sulfate ion **
i) phosphate ion **
j) iodide ion

* Note: This is a pseudo-simple anion the name and formula of which must be memorized.
** Note: These are complex anions the names and formulas of which must be memorized.

4. See "SIMPLE NOMENCLATURE" section $1 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{D} \& \mathrm{E}$.
a) $\mathrm{NH}_{2}^{-}$*
b) $\mathrm{SO}_{3}^{-2}$ **
c) $\mathrm{O}^{-2}$
d) $\mathrm{N}^{-3}$
e) $\mathrm{As}^{-3}$
f) $\mathrm{F}^{-}$

* Note: This is a pseudo-simple anion the name and formula of which must be memorized.
** Note: This is a complex anion the name and formula of which must be memorized.

5. See "SIMPLE NOMENCLATURE" section 1 C, D \& E.
a) lithium cyanide *
b) sodium hydrogen sulfate **
c) aluminum phosphite **
d) iron(II) oxide
e) copper(II) fluoride
f) vanadium(III) chloride
g) manganese(II) iodide
h) chromium(III) sulfate **
i) potassium selenide
j) ammonium bromide *

* Note: These salts contain a pseudo-simple ions the names and formulas of which must be memorized.
** Note: These salts contain complex anions the names and formulas of which must be memorized.

6. See "SIMPLE NOMENCLATURE" section 1 C, D \& E.
a) $\mathrm{Al}_{2}\left(\mathrm{SO}_{4}\right)_{3}$ *
b) $\left(\mathrm{NH}_{4}\right)_{2} \mathrm{CO}_{3}{ }^{* *}$
c) $\mathrm{Cr}_{2} \mathrm{~S}_{3}$
d) $\mathrm{Cr}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{3}$
e) $\mathrm{Ca}\left(\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{PO}_{4}\right)_{2}$ *
f) $\mathrm{Ni}(\mathrm{OH})_{2} * * *$

* Note: These salts contain complex anions the names and formulas of which must be memorized.
** Note: This salt contains a complex anion and a pseudo-simple cation the name and formula of which must be memorized.
*** Note: This salt contains a pseudo-simple ion the name and formula of which must be memorized.

7. See "SIMPLE NOMENCLATURE" section 2.
a) carbon dioxide
b) tetrasulfur tetranitride
c) iodine heptafluoride
d) sulfur hexafluoride
e) dinitrogen pentoxide
g) sulfur trioxide
h) tetraphosphorus octasulfide
f) diselenium decafluoride
i) tetraiodine nonoxide
j) boron trifluoride
8. See "SIMPLE NOMENCLATURE" section 2.
a) $\mathrm{CS}_{2}$
b) $\mathrm{BrF}_{5}$
c) $\mathrm{N}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{4}$
d) $\mathrm{PCl}_{5}$
e) $\mathrm{IBr}_{3}$
f) $\mathrm{P}_{4} \mathrm{O}_{6}$
