

Contents

Introduction	1
About This Book	1
Conventions Used in This Book	2
Foolish Assumptions	2
Icons Used in This Book.....	3
Where to Go from Here	3
Chapter 1: Matter and Energy: Exploring the Stuff of Chemistry.....	5
Knowing the States of Matter and Their Changes	6
Solids, liquids, and gases	6
Solids.....	6
Liquids	7
Gases.....	7
Condensing and freezing	7
Melting and boiling.....	8
From solid to liquid.....	8
From liquid to gas.....	9
Skipping liquids: Sublimation.....	9
Pure Substances and Mixtures	10
Pure substances.....	10
Elements	10
Compounds	11
Throwing mixtures into the mix	11
Measuring Matter.....	12
Nice Properties You've Got There	13
Energy Types	14
Kinetic energy	14
Potential energy	15
Temperature and Heat	15
Chapter 2: What's In an Atom?	17
Subatomic Particles	17
Centering on the Nucleus.....	19
Locating Those Electrons	21
The quantum mechanical model	21
The principal quantum number n	22
The angular momentum quantum number l....	23

The magnetic quantum number m_l	25
The spin quantum number m_s	25
Putting the quantum numbers together	25
Energy level diagrams	26
The dreaded energy level diagram	27
Electron configurations	29
Valence electrons: Clues about chemical reactions	30
Isotopes and Ions	30
Isotopes: Varying neutrons	31
Ions: Varying electrons	32
Gaining and losing electrons	32
Writing electron configurations	33
Predicting types of bonds	33
Chapter 3: The Periodic Table.	35
Repeating Patterns: The Modern Periodic Table.....	35
Arranging Elements in the Periodic Table	38
Grouping metals, nonmetals, and metalloids	38
Metals.....	38
Nonmetals	40
Metalloids	40
Arranging elements by families and periods.....	41
Chapter 4: Nuclear Chemistry.	43
Seeing How the Atom's Put Together.....	43
Dealing with a Nuclear Breakup: Balancing Reactions.....	44
Understanding Types of Natural Radioactive Decay.....	46
Alpha emission.....	47
Beta emission	48
Gamma emission.....	48
Positron emission	49
Electron capture	49
Half-Lives and Radioactive Dating	50
Calculating remaining radioactivity	51
Radioactive dating	51
Breaking Elements Apart with Nuclear Fission.....	52
Mass defect: Where does all that energy come from?	52
Chain reactions and critical mass	53
Coming Together with Nuclear Fusion.....	54

Chapter 5: Ionic Bonding	55
Forming Ions: Making Satisfying Electron Trades	55
Gaining and losing electrons	56
Losing an electron to become	
a cation: Sodium	56
Gaining an electron to become	
an anion: Chlorine	57
Looking at charges on single-atom ions	58
Seeing some common one-atom ions	58
Possible charges: Naming ions	
with multiple oxidation states	59
Grouping atoms to form polyatomic ions	61
Creating Ionic Compounds	62
Making the bond: Sodium metal + chlorine gas =	
sodium chloride	63
Figuring out the formulas of ionic compounds.....	63
Balancing charges:	
Magnesium and bromine	64
Using the crisscross rule.....	65
Naming ionic compounds	66
Dealing with multiple oxidation states	66
Getting names from formulas and	
formulas from names	67
Bonding Clues: Electrolytes	
and Nonelectrolytes.....	68
Chapter 6: Covalent Bonding	69
Covalent Bond Basics	69
Sharing electrons: A hydrogen example	69
Why atoms have to share.....	70
Representing covalent bonds	71
Comparing covalent bonds with other bonds	71
Dealing with multiple bonds	72
Naming Covalent Compounds Made of Two Elements	74
Writing Covalent Compound Formulas	75
Empirical formulas	75
Molecular or true formulas	75
Structural formulas: Dots and dashes.....	76
Basic bonds: Writing the electron-dot	
and Lewis formulas	77
Double bonds: Writing structural	
formulas for C ₂ H ₄ O	79
Grouping atoms with the condensed	
structural formula	81

Electronegativities: Which Atoms Have More Pull?	82
Predicting the type of bond.....	82
Polar covalent bonding: Creating partial charges.....	84
Attracting other molecules: Intermolecular forces ...	86
Chapter 7: Chemical Reactions.	87
Reactants and Products: Reading Chemical Equations	87
Collision Theory: How Reactions Occur	89
Hitting the right spot.....	89
Adding, releasing, and absorbing energy	90
Exothermic reactions: Releasing heat	90
Endothermic reactions: Absorbing heat	92
Types of Reactions	92
Combination reactions: Coming together	93
Decomposition reactions: Breaking down.....	93
Single displacement reactions:	
Kicking out another element	93
Using the activity series	94
Writing ionic and net-ionic equations.....	94
Double displacement reactions: Trading places	95
Precipitation reactions: Forming solids	95
Neutralization reactions: Forming water.....	97
Combustion reactions: Burning	97
Redox reactions: Exchanging electrons.....	97
Balancing Chemical Equations	98
Balancing the Haber process	99
Balancing the burning of butane.....	100
Knowing Chemical Equilibrium	
Backwards and Forwards.....	101
Matching rates of change in the Haber process	102
Constants: Comparing amounts	
of products and reactants	103
Le Chatelier's Principle: Getting More (or Less) Product	104
Changing the concentration.....	104
Changing the temperature.....	105
Changing the pressure	105
Chemical Kinetics: Changing Reaction Speeds	106
Seeing How Catalysts Speed Up Reactions.....	108
Heterogeneous catalysis: Giving reactants a better target.....	109
Homogeneous catalysis: Offering an easier path	110

Chapter 8: Electrochemistry: Using Electrons 111

Transferring Electrons with Redox Reactions	111
Oxidation	112
Loss of electrons	112
Gain of oxygen	113
Loss of hydrogen	113
Reduction.....	113
Gain of electrons.....	113
Loss of oxygen	114
Gain of hydrogen	114
One's loss is the other's gain	114
Oxidation numbers.....	115
Balancing Redox Equations	117
Exploring Electrochemical Cells	121
Galvanic cells: Getting electricity from chemical reactions	121
Electrolytic cells: Getting chemical reactions from electricity	123
Having it both ways with rechargeable batteries....	123

Chapter 9: Measuring Substances with the Mole 125

Counting by Weighing	125
Moles: Putting Avogadro's Number to Good Use	127
Defining the mole.....	127
Calculating weight, particles, and moles	128
Finding formulas of compounds	129
Chemical Reactions and Moles	130
Reaction stoichiometry.....	131
Percent yield	132
Limiting reactants	133

Chapter 10: A Salute to Solutions 135

Mixing Things Up with Solutes, Solvents, and Solutions	135
How dissolving happens	136
Concentration limits.....	136
Saturated facts	137
Understanding Solution Concentration Units	138
Percent composition	138
Weight/weight percentage	139
Weight/volume percentage	139
Volume/volume percentage	140

Molarity: Comparing solute to solution.....	141
Diluting solutions to the right molarity.....	142
Molarity in stoichiometry: Figuring out how much you need	143
Molality: Comparing solute to solvent.....	143
Parts per million	144
Chapter 11: Acids and Bases.....	145
Observing Properties of Acids and Bases	145
The Brønsted-Lowry Acid-Base Theory.....	146
Understanding Strong and Weak Acids and Bases	147
Strong: Ionizing all the way	147
Hydrogen chloride and other strong acids....	148
Strong bases: Hydroxide ions	149
Weak: Ionizing partially.....	149
Acetic acid and other weak acids.....	150
Weak bases: Ammonia	152
Acid-Base Reactions: Using the Brønsted-Lowry System	152
Acting as either an acid or base:	
Amphoteric water	153
Showing True Colors with Acid-Base Indicators.....	154
Doing a quick color test with litmus paper	154
Phenolphthalein: Finding concentration with titration.....	155
Phun with the pH Scale	156
Chapter 12: Clearing the Air on Gases.....	159
The Kinetic Molecular Theory:	
Assuming Things about Gases	159
Relating Physical Properties with Gas Laws	162
Boyle's law: Pressure and volume	163
Charles's law: Volume and temperature.....	164
Gay-Lussac's Law: Pressure and temperature	165
The combined gas law:	
Pressure, volume, and temp.....	166
Avogadro's Law: The amount of gas	167
The ideal gas equation: Putting it all together.....	169
Chapter 13: Ten Serendipitous Discoveries in Chemistry.....	171
Archimedes: Streaking Around	171
Vulcanization of Rubber.....	172
Molecular Geometry	172

Mauve Dye	172
Kekulé: The Beautiful Dreamer	173
Discovering Radioactivity	173
Finding Really Slick Stuff: Teflon	173
Stick 'Em Up! Sticky Notes	174
Growing Hair.....	174
Sweeter Than Sugar	174
Index	175