

Vocabulary: Moles



Vocabulary

- Atomic mass – the mass of an atom, expressed in *unified atomic mass units* (u).
- Avogadro constant – the number of atoms or molecules in a *mole* of a substance.
 - The Avogadro constant has a numerical value of $6.02214076 \times 10^{23}$.
- Conversion factor – a ratio or fraction that is numerically equal to one, which is used to multiply or divide a quantity when converting from one unit to another.
 - For example, the conversion factor for moles to grams of CO₂ is:

$$\frac{1 \text{ mol CO}_2}{44.01 \text{ g}}$$

This conversion factor is equivalent to one because one mole of carbon dioxide has a mass of 44.01 grams.

- Dimensional analysis – a technique that is used to change the units of a quantity without changing the quantity's value.
 - In dimensional analysis, a quantity is multiplied by one or more conversion factors.
 - Dimensional analysis is also known as the factor-label method.
- Molar mass – the mass of one mole of a substance.
 - The molar mass of an element (or compound) in grams has the same numerical value as its atomic (or molecular) mass in unified atomic mass units.
 - For example, the molecular mass of an oxygen molecule (O₂) is 32 u; therefore, its molar mass is 32 g/mol.
- Mole – the SI unit of amount of substance.
 - One mole contains $6.02214076 \times 10^{23}$ particles.
 - The mass in grams of one mole of any substance is the same as its atomic (or molecular) mass in unified atomic mass units.
- Molecular mass – (M) the mass of a molecule, expressed in unified atomic mass units.
 - Molecular mass is found by adding together the masses of all the atoms that make up the molecule.
- Scientific notation – a convenient method of writing very large or very small numbers.
 - A number expressed in scientific notation consists of a coefficient between 1 and 10 multiplied by a power of 10.
 - For example, in scientific notation 41,600,000 is written as 4.16×10^7 .

- Significant figures – digits in a value that indicate the accuracy of an initial measurement, and express the confidence we have in that measurement.
 - A measurement should be recorded with a number of significant figures that reflects the resolution of the instrument.
 - Examples of significant figures include the following:
 - 345 has three significant digits because all non-zero digits are significant.
 - 5.300 has four significant digits because all zeroes that follow digits to the right of the decimal point are significant.
 - 0.0023 has two significant digits because zeros to the left of a non-zero digit are not significant.
 - In scientific notation, all digits in the coefficient are significant.
 - When doing a calculation such as converting from moles to grams, the number of significant figures in the answer should match the lowest number of significant figures of the measured quantities.
 - For example, 3.45 moles of carbon (molar mass 12.011 g/mol) is equal to 41.4 grams. (The values for both moles and grams are expressed to three significant figures.)

- Unified atomic mass unit – (u) the SI unit of atomic and molecular mass.
 - An atomic mass unit is equal to 1.66×10^{-24} g, or $\frac{1}{12}$ the mass of a C-12 atom.
 - The mass of a proton or neutron is approximately 1 u.
 - The unified atomic mass unit is also known as the dalton (Da).

