

Conversion Factors and the Mole

The mole is a unit of measurement specific to chemists, "a chemists dozen".

- 1 mole = 6.022×10^{23} atoms or molecules

The mole needs to be a very large number because atoms and molecules are so small that only a large number can become meaningful

- $6.022 \times 10^{23} = 6022141793000000000000000$
- 1 mol of water is 18.02 mL
- 1 mol of marshmallows would cover the earth to a depth of 18.4 km
- 1 mol of loonies would make a stack the would reach to the sun and back over 4 billion times!

Why the perfect 6.022×10^{23} ?????

- Given that $1.6606 \times 10^{-24} \text{ g} = 1 \text{ u}$ (where u is an atomic mass unit)

$$6.022 \times 10^{23} \text{ C} \times \frac{12.011 \text{ u C}}{1 \text{ C atom}} \times \frac{1.6606 \times 10^{-24} \text{ g C}}{1 \text{ u C}} = 12.011 \text{ g C}$$

- Therefore the average atomic masses as stated on the periodic table will also give the mass of one mole of the each atom in grams!!

The value of 6.022×10^{23} makes possible the use of average atomic masses to find the mass per mole (i.e. g/mol)

$$\begin{array}{rclcl} \text{eg } \text{H}_2\text{O} & \text{H:} & 2 & \times & 1.01 & = & 2.02 \\ & \text{O:} & 1 & \times & 16.00 & = & 16.00 \\ & & & & & & \hline & & & & & & 18.02 \text{ u/molec or g/mol} \end{array}$$

The mole is best understood through three equalities (THE THREE GREAT MOLEY TRUTHS!)

1 mol = 6.022×10^{23} molec or atoms (atoms for one element)

1 mol = x g (where x depends on the formula)

1 mol = 22.414 L of a gas at S.T.P.

(standard temperature (0 °C) and pressure (1 atm))

Conversions:

We will use a conversion factor approach to Stoichiometry. A conversion factor is a fraction in which the numerator and denominator **must represent the same physical quantity but expressed in different units**. As such, multiplication by a conversion factor is like multiplication by one. The difference is accounted for by the units.

Determine how many oranges are in an ipod

$$1 \text{ ipod} \times \frac{250 \text{ dollars}}{1 \text{ ipod}} \times \frac{1 \text{ doz oranges}}{6.83 \text{ dollars}} \times \frac{12 \text{ oranges}}{1 \text{ doz oranges}} = 439.24 \text{ oranges}$$

These conversions are often based on the three great moley truths!

Unit Extensions:

- All units must be followed by a formula extension.
- The formula extension tells you what substance you are measuring.
- eg it is not 24.7 g, it is 24.7 g H₂SO₄

Calculators:

- You must use the EE or EXP button for scientific notation numbers (not the 10^x button or the y^x button)
- Do not type a x 10 anywhere in a scientific notation number

The Unit Connection:

mass → g (mg, kg)

volume → l (ml)

amount → mol (mmol or kmol)