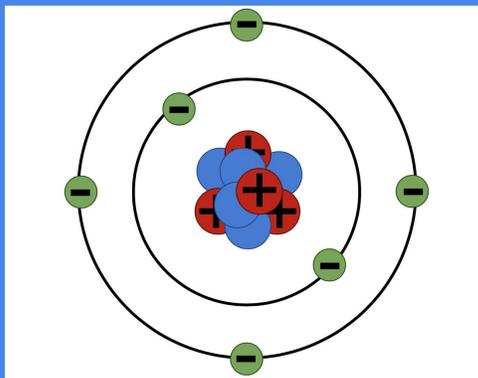


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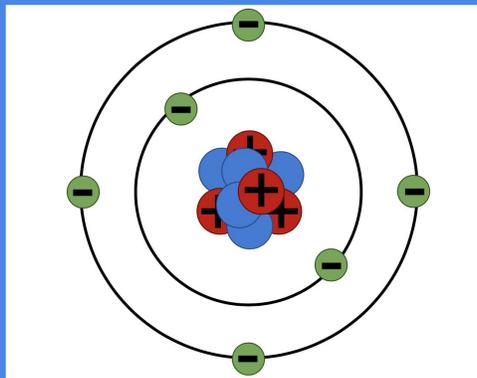
Parts of an Atom

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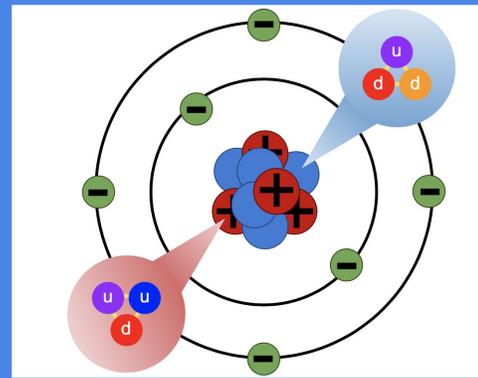
Atom

An atom is the building block of chemistry, and of life. They are made up of protons, neutrons, and electrons. Atoms join together to make molecules, and molecules join together to make all the things in the world.



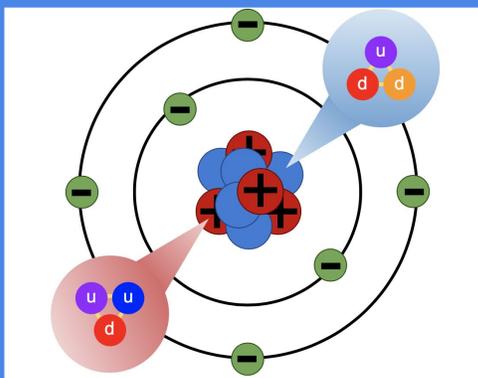
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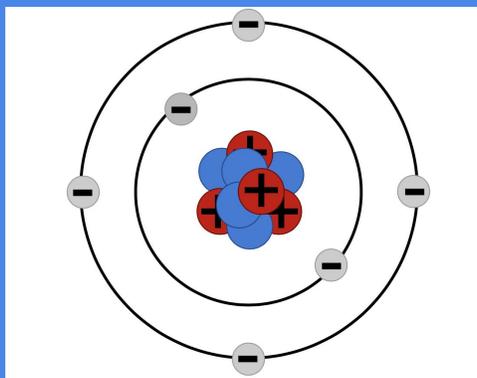
Subatomic Particles

Subatomic particles are all of the particles that are smaller than an atom. They include protons, neutrons, electrons, and other elementary particles. Subatomic particles come together in different groups to make different atoms (different elements).



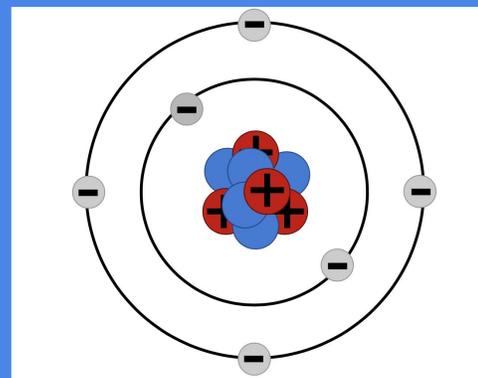
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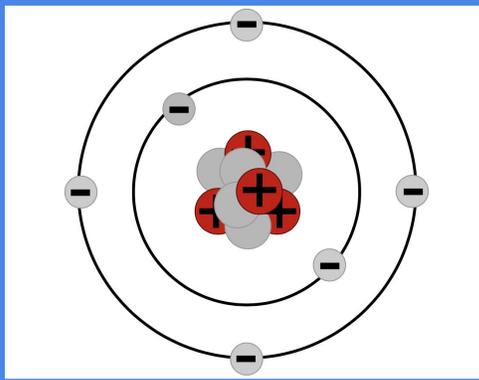
Nucleus

The nucleus is the center of an atom. It is very dense. The nucleus of an atom is made up of positively charged protons, and neutrally charged neutrons. Electrons spin around the nucleus in an electron "cloud."



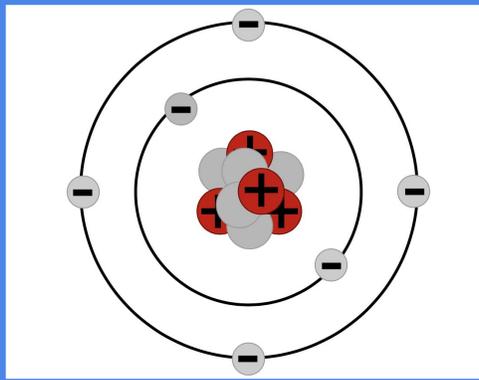
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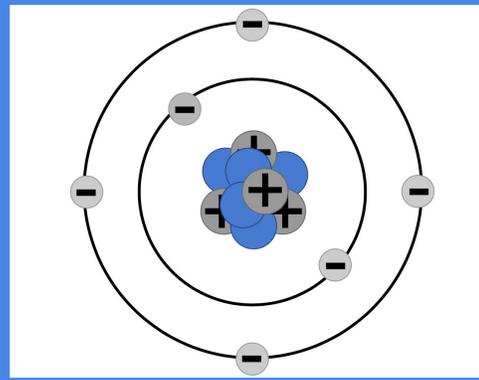
Proton

A proton is a positively charged particle inside the nucleus of an atom. The number of protons in an atom tells us which element it is, and what properties it has. The number of protons in an atom is called the atomic number.



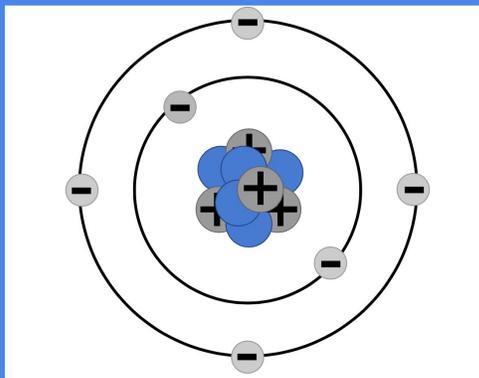
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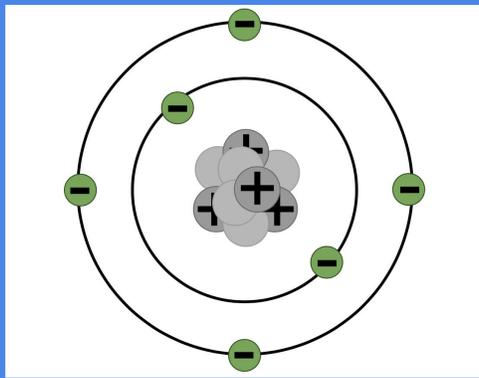
Neutron

A neutron is a particle in the nucleus of an atom with no charge. They help keep the nucleus stable by stopping the protons from pushing each other away. The number of neutrons in an atom affects how heavy the atom is and how radioactive it is.



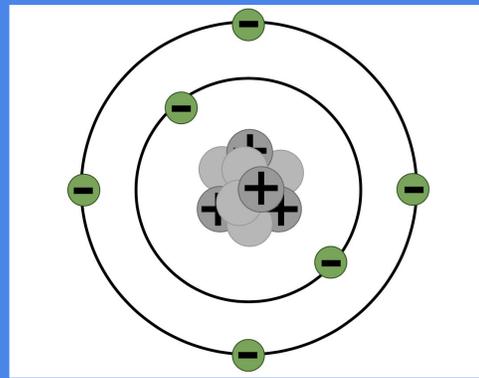
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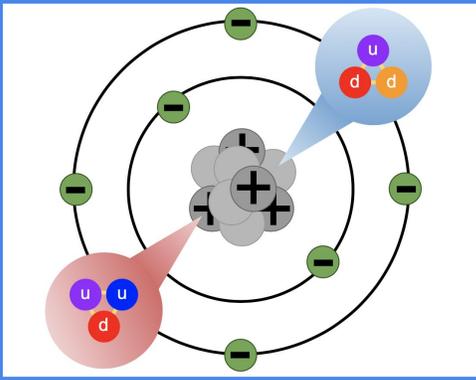
Electron

An electron is a negatively charged particle that spins around the nucleus of an atom. They are much smaller than protons and neutrons, and they move very fast. Neutral atoms have an equal number of electrons and protons.



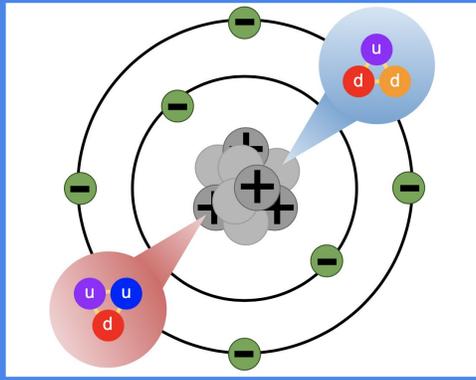
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Elementary Particles

Elementary particles are the smallest particles we know of. They are not made up of any other particles. Electrons are elementary particles, but protons and neutrons are not - they are made of quarks and gluons. There are other elementary particles out there too!



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