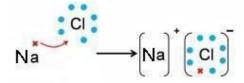
Ionic Compounds: Names and Formulas SNC2D

Sodium chloride or NaCl contains 1 sodium ion and 1 chloride ion.



However, different ions may form compounds in different ratios.

For example, calcium chloride or CaCl₂ contains 1 calcium ion and 2 chloride ions.

(Subscripts are added to the symbols in a formula if there is more than one of that type of atom.)

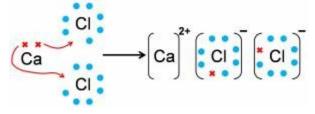
Counting Ions: Practice

FeCl ₃	contains
Na ₂ O	contains
CaO	contains
Fe_2O_3	contains
NaClO ₃	contains
Na ₂ CO ₃	contains
$Ca(ClO_3)_2$	contains

Note that when there is more than one polyatomic ion, the ion is placed in brackets and the subscripts are written outside the brackets.

Why these ratios? It is the valence electrons that determine how these ions combine.

For example, calcium had 2 valence electrons to lose and each chlorine only wants 1. So calcium has to find 2 chlorines.



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Mg ²⁺ and Br ¹⁻	Li ¹⁺ and P ³⁻
Ca ²⁺ and O ²⁻	Al ³⁺ and OH ¹⁻
K ¹⁺ and SO4 ²⁻	Al ³⁺ and O ²⁻
K and 504	At and O
Notice that the quick method of determining the for	rmula is to:
But the ratio between the ions must be reduced to lo	owest terms (and 1s are not written).
E.g. Pb^{4+} and O^{2-} becomes	not