



# **Properties**

#### Acids

#### **Bases**

- Taste sour
- Taster bitter
- React with metals to produce
- Feel slippery
- hydrogen gas

## Indicators

• Indicators allow us to determine whether a substance is an acid or a base.



Image: Aris Suwanmalee (Adobe Stock)

- Litmus Paper
  - Red = Acid
  - Blue = Base



Blue and Red litmus papers

- Phenolphthalein
  - Clear = Acid
  - Pink = Base



Phenolphthalein at pH of 9 (public domain

- · Bromthymol Blue
  - Yellow = Acid
  - Blue = Base



Bromthymol blue – Xato (CC BY-SA 3.0)

- Universal Indicator
  - Color depends on how acidic or basic a solution is.



Pack of litmus test paper and color samples – Coprid (Adobe Stock)

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- Water has an equal number of H<sup>+</sup> and OHions
  - · Water is neutral.
- When an acid is dissolved in water it releases H<sup>+</sup> ions (increasing the overall number of H<sup>+</sup> ions).
- If the number of H<sup>+</sup> ions is greater than the number of OH<sup>-</sup> ions, the solution is acidic.
- The more H<sup>+</sup> ions, the stronger the acid.

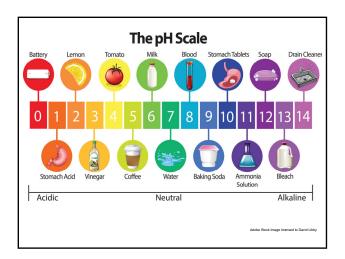
- When a base is dissolved in water, it releases OH<sup>-</sup> ions (increasing the overall number of OH<sup>-</sup> ions in the water).
- If the number of OH<sup>-</sup> ions is greater than the number of H<sup>+</sup> ions, the solution is basic.
- The more OH ions, the stronger the base.

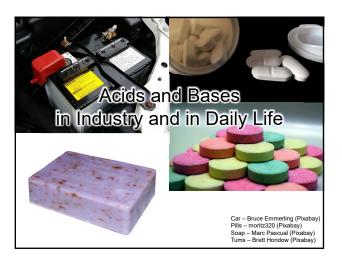


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- The pH (power of hydrogen) of a solution is calculated from the number of H<sup>+</sup> ions in the solution.
  - It is, therefore, a value that represents how acidic or basic a solution is.
- The range of pH values (scale) is 0 to 14.
- Acids have a pH < 7.
- Bases have a pH > 7.
- A neutral substance (neither an acid nor base) has a pH of 7.

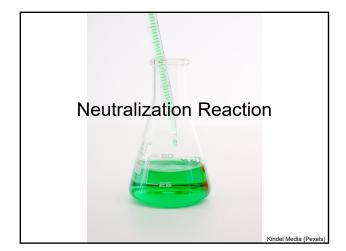
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- · hydrochloric acid, HCI
  - stomach acid; used in cleaning (refining) metals; maintenance of swimming pools; household cleaning
- sulfuric acid, H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>
  - car batteries; manufacture of fertilizers and many other commercial products
- nitric acid, HNO<sub>3</sub>
  - manufacture of fertilizers, explosives; extraction of gold
- acetic acid, HC<sub>2</sub>H<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>
  - vinegar

<ul> <li>carbonic acid, H<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub></li> <li>carbonated drinks</li> <li>citric acid, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>8</sub>O<sub>7</sub></li> <li>food; dietary supplements; creams, gels, liquids, and lotions.</li> <li>acetylsalicylic acid, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>(OCOCH<sub>3</sub>)CO<sub>2</sub>H</li> <li>aspirin</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>sodium hydroxide, NaOH</li> <li>soaps and detergents; oven and drain cleaners</li> <li>potassium hydroxide, KOH</li> <li>liquid soaps and soft soaps; alkaline batteries</li> <li>magnesium hydroxide, Mg(OH)<sub>2</sub></li> <li>laxatives, antacids, and deodorants; used in the neutralization of acidic wastewater</li> <li>calcium hydroxide, Ca(OH)<sub>2</sub></li> <li>antacids; manufacture of cement and lime water; added to neutralize acidic soil.</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>aluminum hydroxide, Al(OH)<sub>3</sub></li> <li>water purification; antacids</li> <li>ammonia, NH<sub>3</sub></li> <li>Used as a building block for the synthesis of many pharmaceutical products; cleaning products; manufacture of fertilizers</li> </ul>	



- The reaction between an acid and a base is a special kind of double displacement reaction called neutralization.
- An acid and base react together to form a salt and water.
  - A salt is an ionic solid consisting of a positive ion (other than hydrogen) and a negative ion (other than hydroxide).

Examples:

 $\begin{aligned} & \text{HCI(aq)} + \text{NaOH(aq)} \rightarrow \text{NaCI(aq)} + \text{H}_2\text{O}(\ell) \\ & \text{2HCI(aq)} + \text{Ca(OH)}_2(\text{aq)} \rightarrow \text{CaCI}_2(\text{aq)} + 2\text{H}_2\text{O}(\ell) \end{aligned}$