

Key

Writing Ionic Formulas

There are a couple of things to remember when writing ionic formulas:

- The compound is ALWAYS neutral
- The Metal is written first; nonmetal second

Procedure

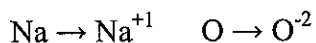
- 1) Determine the charge on both the metal and nonmetal using the Group number.

Group 1 metals = +1

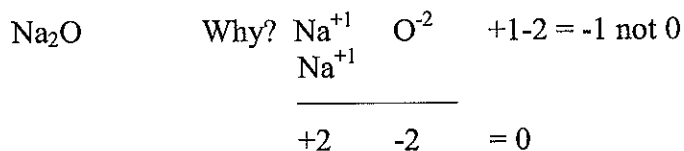
Group 2 metals = +2

Group 17 nonmetals = -1

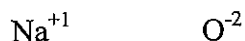
Group 16 nonmetals = -2



- 2) Use the correct number of each ion to obtain a net charge = 0. Write this number as a subscript to the atom.

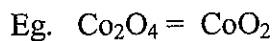


- 3) Shortcut method:



never write 1 as a subscript.

- 4) Always simplify subscripts whenever possible.



You Try!

