## AVERAGE ATOMIC MASS

1. Why can't we mass atoms in grams?
2. What solution did chemists come up with?
3. What does amu stand for?
4. The mass number is NOT found on the periodic table. What is mass number again?

What does the larger number on the periodic table refer to?
5. What is average atomic mass?
6. How do you calculate the average atomic mass?

To sum it up with a formula:

Rule of convenience: round average atomic masses to TWO DECIMAL PLACES!

## Example 1

Calculate the average atomic mass for silicon with the given information:

| Isotope name | Isotope mass (amu) | Relative abundance |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Silicon-28 | 27.98 | $92.21 \%$ |
| Silicon-29 | 28.98 | $4.70 \%$ |
| Silicon-30 | 29.97 | $3.09 \%$ |

## Example 2

Calculate the estimated average atomic mass of neon if neon exists naturally as $90.92 \%$ neon- $20,0.257 \%$ neon- 21 , and the rest is neon- 22 .

## Average Atomic Mass CLASSWORK

1. The element Eu occurs naturally as a mixture of $47.82 \%{ }^{151} \mathrm{Eu}$ and $52.18 \%{ }^{153} \mathrm{Eu}$. Calculate the average atomic mass of Eu.
2. Three isotopes of magnesium occur in nature. Their abundances and masses are listed below. Use this information to calculate the average atomic mass of magnesium. USE actual mass (amu).

| $\frac{\text { Isotope }}{24}$ | $\frac{\text { Mass (amu) }}{23.98504}$ | \% Abundance |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| ${ }^{24} \mathrm{Mg}$ | 78.70 |  |
| ${ }^{25} \mathrm{Mg}$ | 24.98584 | 10.13 |
| ${ }^{26} \mathrm{Mg}$ | 25.98259 | 11.17 |

3. Naturally occurring chlorine consists of two isotopes: $75.53 \%$ of the atoms in a sample are ${ }^{35} \mathrm{Cl}$ (mass $=34.96885$ amu ), and the other $24.47 \%$ are ${ }^{37} \mathrm{Cl}$ (mass $=36.96590 \mathrm{amu}$ ). Calculate the average atomic mass of chlorine.
4. Find the average atomic mass of an unknown element if $51.83 \%$ of the atoms have a mass of 30.086 amu and the rest have a mass of 31.879 amu .
