

Notes: Mass # vs Average atomic Mass

BIG IDEAS

DETAILS	
Mass Number	Electrons are so small they don't contribute to mass. But both <u>protons</u> and <u>neutrons</u> do! So mass number = <u>protons + neutrons</u> . Mass number is calculated for specific, individual <u>atoms</u> .
Isotopes	Protons & neutrons are so tiny they have their own unit - the <u>atomic mass unit</u> , or amu. <u>← 1 proton/neutron weighs 1 amu</u> The number of electrons <u>protons</u> determines what element an atom is. Isotopes of an element have different numbers of <u>neutrons</u> . Since both have mass, different isotopes of an element will have <u>different</u> mass numbers.
Isotope Abundance	Isotopes are <u>named</u> using their mass numbers. An atom of boron with 6 neutrons is called <u>boron-11</u> . Elements that have multiple isotopes have <u>different</u> amounts of each isotope that occur in the world. For example, <u>20%</u> of boron is Boron-10, while <u>80%</u> is Boron-11.
Atomic Mass	Atomic mass is the <u>average</u> mass of all the boron in the world. Since the abundance is not 50/50, you have to calculate a weighted <u>average</u> instead of adding up and dividing by the number of isotopes.
Calculating a Weighted Average	Write a formula for calculating average atomic mass based on his examples: <u>Average atomic mass = abundance isotope 1 × ^{mass} abundance isotope 1 + abundance isotope 2 × mass isotope 2</u> <u>OR</u> <u>Atomic mass = $\sum$ (abundance isotope) (mass isotope)</u> <u>↑</u> <u>sum</u>