

## Molecular Formula Worksheet

**Molecular formula** – a formula showing the types and numbers of atoms combined in a single molecule of a molecular compound. It is a whole number multiple of the empirical formula.

The relationship between a compound's empirical and molecular formula can be written as:

$$x(\text{empirical formula}) = \text{molecular formula}$$

also

$$x(\text{empirical formula mass}) = \text{molecular formula mass}$$

1. To determine the molecular formula of a compound, you must know the compound's molar mass.
2. Divide the molecular mass by the empirical formula mass to determine the whole number multiple (x). You may have to find the empirical formula in order to obtain the empirical formula mass.

### Problems:

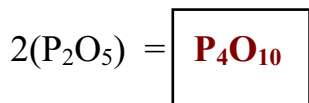
1. In a previous problem, the empirical formula of a compound of phosphorus and oxygen was found to be  $\text{P}_2\text{O}_5$ . Experimentation shows that the molar mass of this compound is 283.89g/mol. What is the compounds molecular formula?
2. Determine the molecular formula of the compound with an empirical formula of CH and a molar mass of 78.110 g/mol.
3. A sample with a molar mass of 34.00 g/mol is found to consist of 0.44g H and 6.92g O. Find its molecular formula.

4. If 4.04g of N combine with 11.46g O to produce a compound with a molar mass of 108.0 g/mol, what is the molecular formula of this compound?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. The empirical formula for trichloroisocyanuric acid, the active ingredient in many household bleaches, is  $\text{OCNCl}$ . The molar mass of this compound is 232.41 g/mol. What is the molecular formula of trichloroisocyanuric acid.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. The molar mass of a compound is 92 g/mol. Analysis of a sample of the compound indicates that it contains 0.606g N and 1.390g O. Find its molecular formula.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. Determine the molecular formula of a compound with an empirical formula of  $\text{NH}_2$  and a formula mass of 32.06 g/mol.

1. Empirical Formula =  $\text{P}_2\text{O}_5$       Empirical Mass =  $2(31.0) + 5(16.0) = 142\text{g}$

Molecular Mass =  $283.89\text{g}$ .

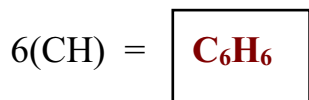
$$\frac{283.89}{142} \approx 2$$



2. Empirical Formula =  $\text{CH}$       Empirical Mass =  $1(12.0) + 1(1.0) = 13\text{g}$

Molecular Mass =  $78.110\text{ amu}$

$$\frac{78.110}{13} \approx 6$$



3.

$$\frac{0.44\text{g H}}{1.0\text{g H}} = 0.44\text{ mol H} \qquad \frac{0.44}{0.433} = 1\text{ H}$$

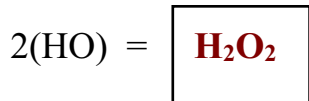
$$\frac{6.92\text{g O}}{16.0\text{g O}} = 0.433\text{ mol O} \qquad \frac{0.433}{0.433} = 1\text{ O}$$



Empirical Formula =  $\text{HO}$       Empirical Mass =  $1(1.0) + 1(16.0) = 17\text{g}$

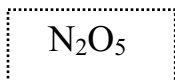
Molecular Mass =  $34.00\text{ amu}$

$$\frac{34.00}{17} \approx 2$$



4.

$$\begin{array}{l} \frac{4.04\text{ N}}{14.0\text{g N}} = 0.289\text{ mol N} \qquad \frac{0.289}{0.289} = 1\text{ N} \\ \frac{11.46\text{g O}}{16.0\text{g O}} = 0.7163\text{ mol O} \qquad \frac{0.7163}{0.289} = 2.5\text{ O} \end{array} \left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{l} \frac{4.04\text{ N}}{14.0\text{g N}} = 0.289\text{ mol N} \\ \frac{11.46\text{g O}}{16.0\text{g O}} = 0.7163\text{ mol O} \end{array}} \right\} \text{X's 2}$$

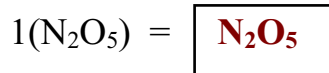


Empirical Formula =  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$

Empirical Mass =  $2(14.0) + 5(16.0) = 108.0\text{g}$

Molecular Mass =  $108.0\text{ amu}$

$$\frac{108.0}{108.0} = 1$$



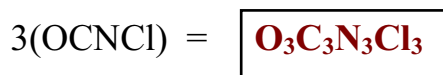
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5. Empirical Formula =  $\text{OCNCl}$

Empirical Mass =  $16.0+12.0+14.0+35.5 = 77.5\text{g}$

Molecular Mass =  $232.41\text{ amu}$

$$\frac{232.41}{77.5} \approx 3$$

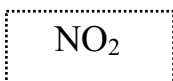


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6.

$$\frac{0.606\text{g N}}{14.0\text{g N}} \times \frac{1\text{ mol N}}{14.0\text{g N}} = 0.0433\text{ mol N} \quad \frac{0.0433}{0.0433} = 1\text{ N}$$

$$\frac{1.390\text{g O}}{16.0\text{g O}} \times \frac{1\text{ mol O}}{16.0\text{g O}} = 0.08688\text{ mol O} \quad \frac{0.08688}{0.0433} = 2\text{ O}$$

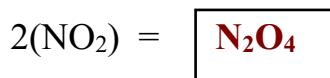


Empirical Formula =  $\text{NO}_2$

Empirical Mass =  $1(14.0) + 2(16.0) = 46.0\text{g}$

Molecular Mass =  $92\text{ g}$

$$\frac{92}{46} = 2$$



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7. Empirical Formula =  $\text{NH}_2$

Empirical Mass =  $1(14.0) + 2(1.0) = 16\text{g}$

Molecular Mass =  $32.06\text{ amu}$

$$\frac{32.06}{16} \approx 2$$

