

Naming Ionic Compounds

To name a compound that contains two elements,

- identify the **cation** and **anion**.
- name the cation first followed by the name of the anion.

Guide to Naming Ionic Compounds with Metals That Form a Single Ion

STEP 1

Identify the cation and anion.

STEP 2

Name the cation by its element name.

STEP 3

Name the anion by changing the last part of its element name to ide.

STEP 4

Write the name of the cation first and the name of the anion second.

To name a compound that contains polyatomic ion(s),

- identify the **cation** and **anion**.
- name the cation first followed by the name of the anion.

use polyatomic ion chart

Examples of Ionic Compounds

Formula	Ions		Name
	cation	anion	
NaCl	Na ⁺	Cl ⁻	sodium chloride
K ₂ S	K ⁺	S ²⁻	potassium sulfide
MgCO ₃	Mg ²⁺	CO ₃ ²⁻	magnesium carbonate
Ca(NO ₂)	Ca ²⁺	NO ₂ ⁻	calcium nitrate
Al ₂ O ₃	Al ³⁺	O ²⁻	aluminum oxide