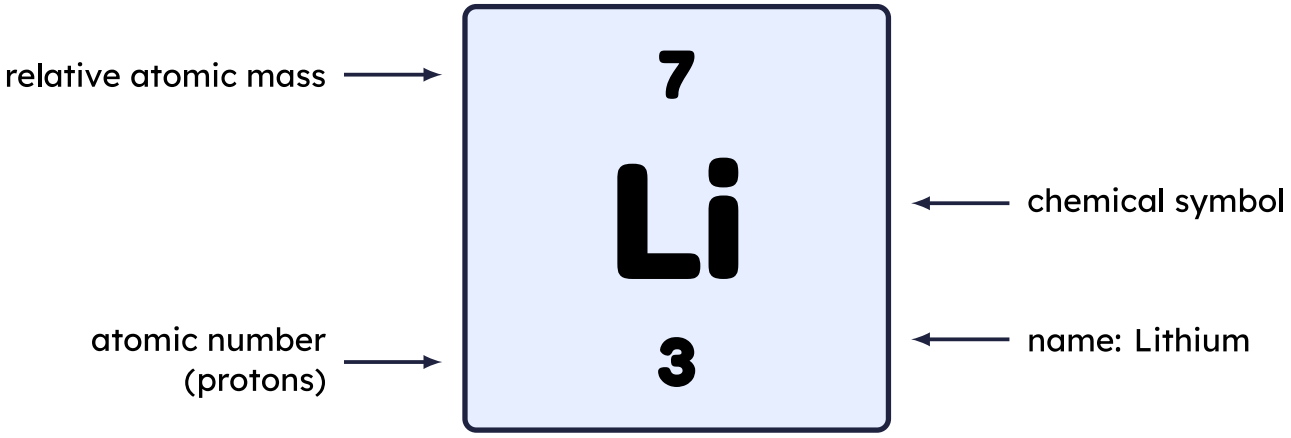
1.4

Reading a periodic-table tile

Name _____ Class _____

Relative atomic mass on top · symbol · proton number on the bottom (the textbook convention)

How to read a tile

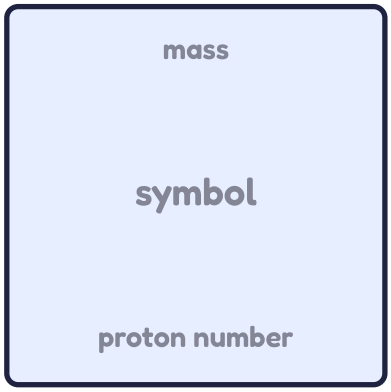


The two numbers tell you the particles. Protons = the bottom number. In a neutral atom, electrons = protons. **Neutrons = mass − protons** = 7 − 3 = **4**. So this tile is lithium-7: **3 protons, 3 electrons, 4 neutrons.**

Don't mix it up

Symbol notation in the booklet is laid out differently: in ${}^{7}_{3}\mathrm{Li}$ the mass number A is top left and the atomic number Z is bottom left of the symbol, not above and below it.

Your turn — fill one in



Choose an element. Write its **relative atomic mass**, rounded to a whole number, on top, the **symbol** in the middle, and the **proton number** on the bottom. Then work out:

protons = ☐ electrons = ☐

neutrons = mass − protons = ☐

Page done? Tick it off ◌