

Table 2. Names and Formulas of Some Common Substances

A. *Elements that occur as polyatomic molecules:*

		normal state			normal state
hydrogen	H ₂	gas	nitrogen	N ₂	gas
fluorine	F ₂	gas	oxygen	O ₂	gas
chlorine	Cl ₂	gas	ozone	O ₃	gas
bromine	Br ₂	liquid	sulfur	S ₈	solid
iodine	I ₂	solid	phosphorus	P ₄	solid

B. *Compounds that are solids at room temperature:*

ammonium chloride	NH ₄ Cl	silver nitrate	AgNO ₃
calcium chloride	CaCl ₂	sodium acetate	NaC ₂ H ₃ O ₂
calcium nitrate	Ca(NO ₃) ₂	sodium carbonate	Na ₂ CO ₃
magnesium chloride	MgCl ₂	sodium chloride	NaCl
nickel sulfate	NiSO ₄	sodium sulfate	Na ₂ SO ₄
potassium bromide	KBr	sodium	
potassium cyanide	KCN	hydrogen carbonate †	NaHCO ₃

C. *Compounds that are liquids at room temperature:*

benzene	C ₆ H ₆	ethanol (ethyl alcohol)	C ₂ H ₅ OH
carbon tetrachloride	CCl ₄	methanol (methyl alcohol)	CH ₃ OH
chloroform	CHCl ₃	hydrogen peroxide	H ₂ O ₂
water	H ₂ O	octane	C ₈ H ₁₈

D. *Compounds that are gases at room temperature:*

ammonia	NH ₃	methane	CH ₄
carbon dioxide	CO ₂	nitric oxide	NO
carbon monoxide	CO	nitrogen dioxide	NO ₂
hydrogen chloride	HCl	sulfur dioxide	SO ₂
hydrogen cyanide	HCN	sulfur trioxide	SO ₃
hydrogen sulfide	H ₂ S		

E. *Acids*

acetic acid	HC ₂ H ₃ O ₂	perchloric acid	HClO ₄
sulfuric acid	H ₂ SO ₄	nitric acid	HNO ₃
sulfurous acid	H ₂ SO ₃	nitrous acid	HNO ₂
hydrochloric acid	HCl (aqueous solution of hydrogen chloride)		

F. *Bases*

ammonia	NH ₃	potassium hydroxide	KOH
calcium hydroxide	Ca(OH) ₂	sodium hydroxide	NaOH

† Sodium hydrogen carbonate is often called sodium bicarbonate. It is also baking soda.