

EXTENSION ACTIVITY  
INTRODUCTION TO COLLEGE CHEMISTRY

# RADII TRENDS KEY

Activity  
Directions

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This activity will serve as practice for the topics covered in the first tutorial level, as well as help you connect those concepts to the periodic table. This activity is best used in conjunction with not only the tutorial levels, but also supplementary learning resources such as course lectures, textbook reading, etc. The goal of this activity is to use atoms you build in the sandbox to explore missing parts of periodic tables and identify periodic table trends. You will frequently be asked to “Lock It In”. These are simply opportunities for you to solidify what you have accomplished in each task and help ensure you meet each objective.

1. Log into Collisions and navigate to the Radii Trends Game.
2. Play the Tutorial levels, if you haven't done so already.
3. Exit the levels and enter the Radii Trends sandbox.
4. Follow all instructions as written below. Be sure to reference your course's textbook, lecture notes, etc. as needed.



## OBJECTIVE 1

Demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between atomic number, proton number, the number of electrons, and the way these numbers increase on the periodic table.

**TASK 1:** For each of the elements indicated on the periodic table below, build the correct atom in the sandbox with the given number of electrons and then complete the missing data in the gray box.

**Group**

Number of Electrons: 3  
Proton Number: 3  
Atomic Number: 3  
Element Name: **Lithium**  
Atomic Symbol: Li

Number of Electrons: 5  
Proton Number: 5  
Atomic Number: 5  
Element Name: **Boron**  
Atomic Symbol: B

**Period**

Number of Electrons: 19  
Proton Number: 19  
Atomic Number: 19  
Element Name: **Potassium**  
Atomic Symbol: K

Number of Electrons: 9  
Proton Number: 9  
Atomic Number: 9  
Element Name: **Fluorine**  
Atomic Symbol: F

Number of Electrons: 55  
Proton Number: 55  
Atomic Number: 55  
Element Name: **Cesium**  
Atomic Symbol: Cs

Number of Electrons: 29  
Proton Number: 29  
Atomic Number: 29  
Element Name: **Copper**  
Atomic Symbol: Cu



### LOCK IT IN:

What are the relationships between atomic number, proton number, and the number of electrons in a neutral atom?

The atomic number of an element is the same as the number of protons in each of its atoms. In a neutral atom, the number of electrons equals the number of protons and thus is also the same as the atomic number.



## OBJECTIVE 1

Demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between atomic number, proton number, the number of electrons, and the way these numbers increase on the periodic table.

### LOCK IT IN:

Identify the relationship between atomic number, number of protons, and the number of electrons in a neutral atom as you go right across a period and down a group by filling in the arrows below with the terms “increasing” or “decreasing”.

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The diagram illustrates trends in atomic number, proton number, and number of electrons across the periodic table. It features a central periodic table grid with a separate row for the lanthanide series below it. Three horizontal arrows point to the right, indicating trends across a period: Atomic Number: Increasing, Proton Number: Increasing, and Number of Electrons: Increasing. Three vertical arrows point downwards, indicating trends down a group: Number of Electrons: Increasing, Proton Number: Increasing, and Atomic Number: Increasing. The word "Increasing" is written in red in all instances.



## OBJECTIVE 2

Demonstrate an understanding of how effective nuclear charge determines trends in atomic radii.

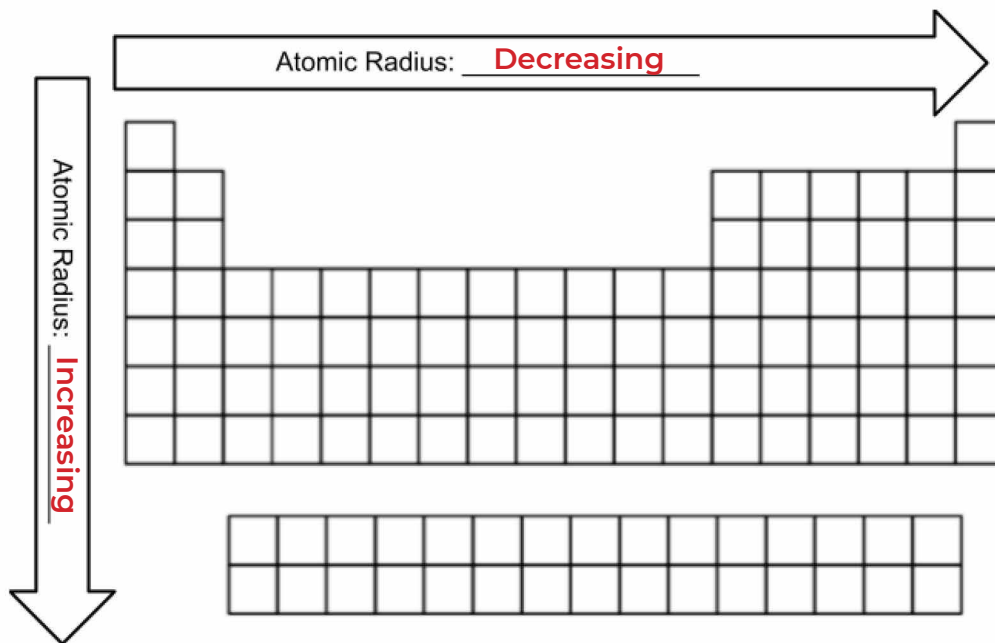
**TASK 2:** Take a look at the six original atoms that you made in the sandbox. Order these six elements in order of increasing atomic radius in the spaces below.

Fluorine < Boron < Copper < Lithium < Potassium < Cesium  
Smallest Radius Largest Radius

### LOCK IT IN:

Identify the trend in atomic radii as you go right across a period and down a group by filling in the arrows below with the terms "increasing" or "decreasing".

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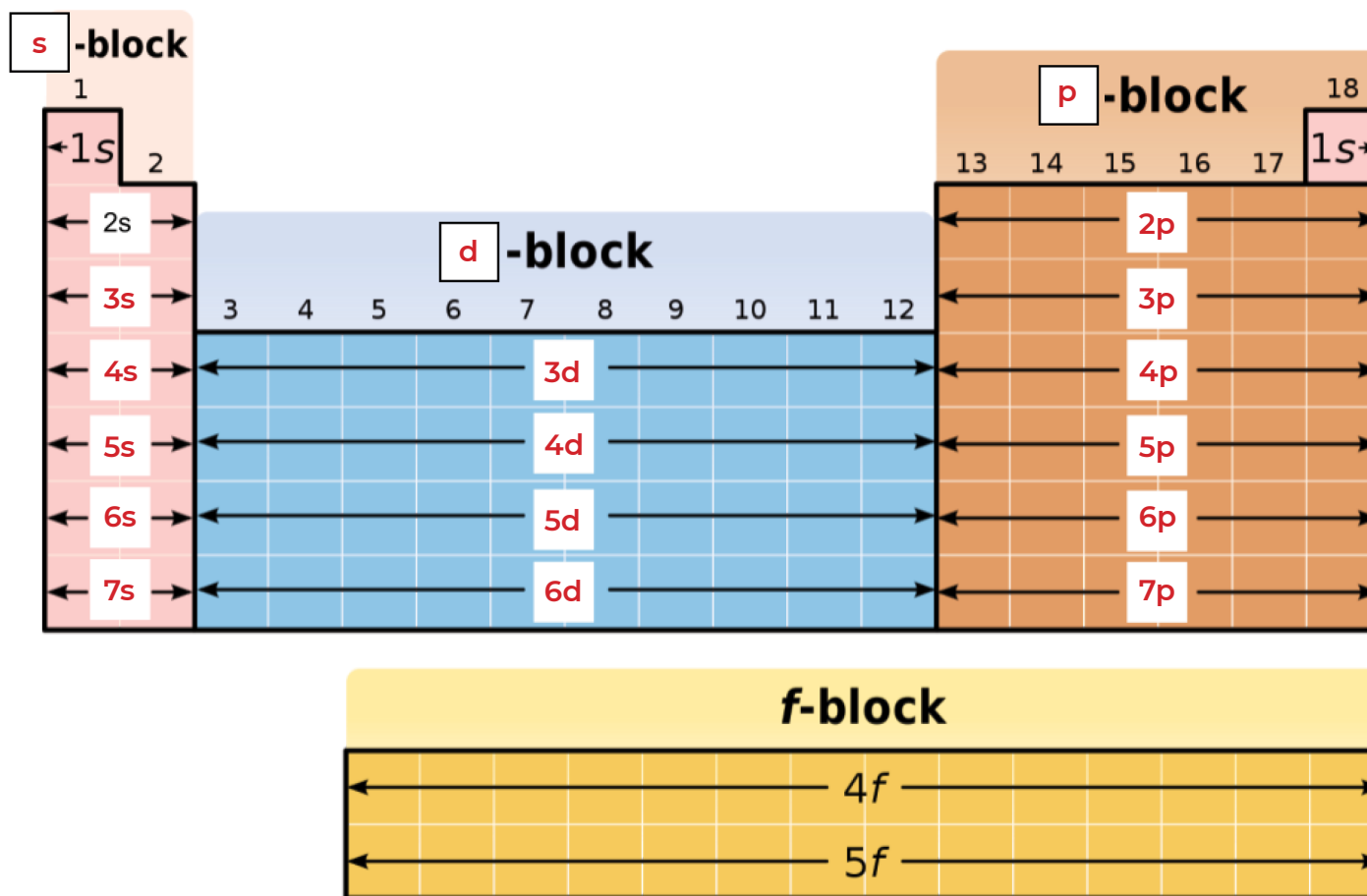




## OBJECTIVE 2

Demonstrate an understanding of how effective nuclear charge determines trends in atomic radii.

**TASK 3:** Using what you know about electron configurations, fill in the blanks with the orbital in which the last electron for indicated elements will be located. Notice how many columns are highlighted in each color to give you an idea of how many electrons can fit in that sublevel. You must also label each “block” of the periodic table with the correct orbital letter. The f-block has already been completed.



Periodic Table 2 by Roshan220195, CC BY-SA 3.0



## OBJECTIVE 2

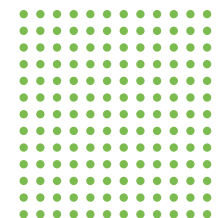
Demonstrate an understanding of how effective nuclear charge determines trends in atomic radii.



### LOCK IT IN:

The periodic table can also be used to determine electron configuration. Fill in the highlighted spaces on the periodic table with the location of the last added electron in a ground state atom of that element. You will notice that you have already created some in the sandbox. However, there are five new ones you will also need to create. Hydrogen and helium have been filled in so that you can see the proper formatting. Pay careful attention to the energy level in which you are putting your final electron while working in the sandbox.

1s <sup>1</sup>																				1s <sup>2</sup>	
2s <sup>1</sup>																					
4s <sup>1</sup>																					
6s <sup>1</sup>																					








## OBJECTIVE 2

Demonstrate an understanding of how effective nuclear charge determines trends in atomic radii.

### LOCK IT IN:

Create a nitrogen atom ( $Z = 7$ ) and try skipping the first energy level by adding all of your electrons to the second energy instead. Explain why the **aufbau principle** prevented you from doing so.

The aufbau principle tells us that in an atom in its ground state, electrons fill the lowest available energy states before filling higher ones. When the nitrogen atom is built by putting electrons into the second energy level first, electrons are being given higher energy states before the lower ones have been filled. This action violates the aufbau principle.

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### LOCK IT IN:

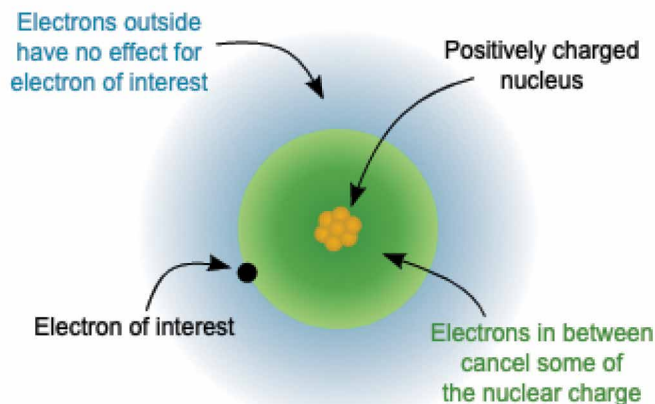
Try creating the same nitrogen atom. As you start to fill the 2p orbitals, put two electrons together in the first orbital. Explain how this violates **Hund's Rule**.

Hund's rule tells us that due to the repulsive forces that exist within an orbital, electrons will fill orbitals singly first before pairing up. When the nitrogen atom is built by putting electrons together in orbitals before other orbitals of the same subshell have an electron, the action ignores that repulsive forces cause ground state atoms to have the highest number of partially filled orbitals with the same energy as possible before electrons pair up. Constructing the nitrogen atom in such a way violates Hund's rule.



## OBJECTIVE 2

Demonstrate an understanding of how effective nuclear charge determines trends in atomic radii.



Since all electrons share the same negative charge, repulsive forces help keep them generally separated. This effect is seen with “shielding”, which occurs when core (nonvalence) electrons reduce the **effective nuclear charge** or the attractive forces of the protons on the valence electrons. These electrons closer to the nucleus weaken the pull of the protons on the valence electrons and thus allow them to be more easily removed. Accordingly, increasing numbers of protons increases the effective nuclear charge on the valence electrons with only minor additional shielding as long as the added electrons are still in the same energy level. Addition of electrons in new energy levels increases shielding and thus reduces the attractive forces of the protons on the valence electrons even further.

Consider the concept using the image of periods 4 and 5 of the periodic table below. Of the indicated elements, krypton (Kr) with its 36 protons has a larger effective nuclear charge on its valence electrons than chromium (Cr) which has a larger effective nuclear charge on its valence electrons than potassium (K). The effective nuclear charge drops dramatically from krypton (Kr) to rubidium (Rb) despite the increased nuclear charge because the valence electrons are in a new energy level. However, note that in going down Group 1 the effective nuclear charge on the valence electrons of rubidium is slightly higher than that of potassium.

potassium 19 K 39.098	calcium 20 Ca 40.078	scandium 21 Sc 44.956	titanium 22 Ti 47.867	vanadium 23 V 50.942	chromium 24 Cr 51.996	manganese 25 Mn 54.938	iron 26 Fe 55.845	cobalt 27 Co 58.933	nickel 28 Ni 58.693	copper 29 Cu 63.546	zinc 30 Zn 65.39	gallium 31 Ga 69.723	germanium 32 Ge 72.61	arsenic 33 As 74.922	selecnium 34 Se 78.96	bromine 35 Br 79.904	krypton 36 Kr 83.80
rubidium 37 Rb 85.468	strontium 38 Sr 87.62	yttrium 39 Y 88.906	zirconium 40 Zr 91.224	niobium 41 Nb 92.906	niobium 42 Mo 95.94	technetium 43 Tc [98]	ruthenium 44 Ru 101.07	rhodium 45 Rh 102.91	palladium 46 Pd 106.42	silver 47 Ag 107.87	cadmium 48 Cd 112.41	indium 49 In 114.82	tin 50 Sn 118.71	antimony 51 Sb 121.76	tellurium 52 Te 127.60	iodine 53 I 126.90	xenon 54 Xe 131.29



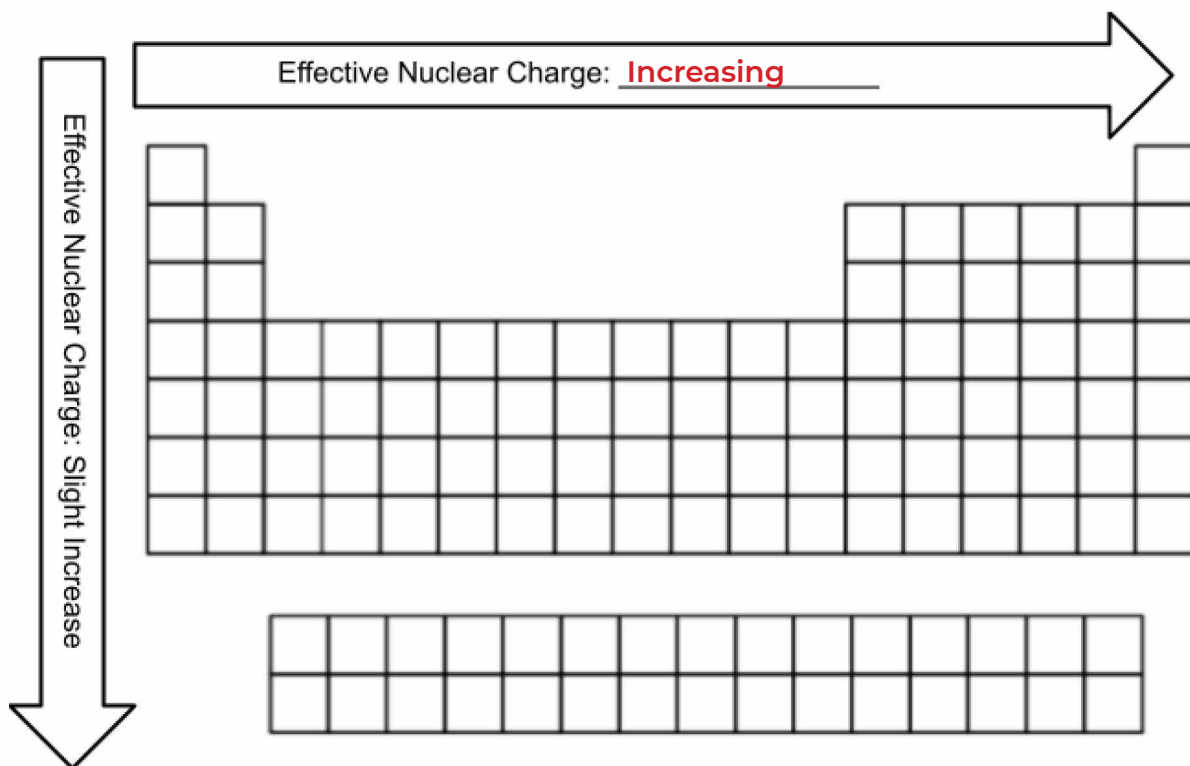


## OBJECTIVE 2

Demonstrate an understanding of how effective nuclear charge determines trends in atomic radii.

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Use the information from the text above to identify the trend in effective nuclear charge as you go right across a period by filling in the arrow below with the term “increasing” or “decreasing”.



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### LOCK IT IN:

Use the terms “**energy level**” and “**effective nuclear charge**” to explain why the trend you saw in atomic radius going right across a period is different from the one in going down a group.

As one goes from left to right across a period, the number of protons (and thus the positive charge) increases. Although the number of electrons also increases with the addition of these protons, the electrons are all added in the same energy level. As a result, these electrons cause minimal shielding of the attractive force of the protons on the valence electrons. This results in an increase in effective nuclear charge going left to right across a period and a resulting decrease in atomic radius as the valence electrons are pulled closer to the nucleus. However, the addition of electrons at entirely new energy levels farther from the nucleus as you go down a group simply results in a larger atomic radius.

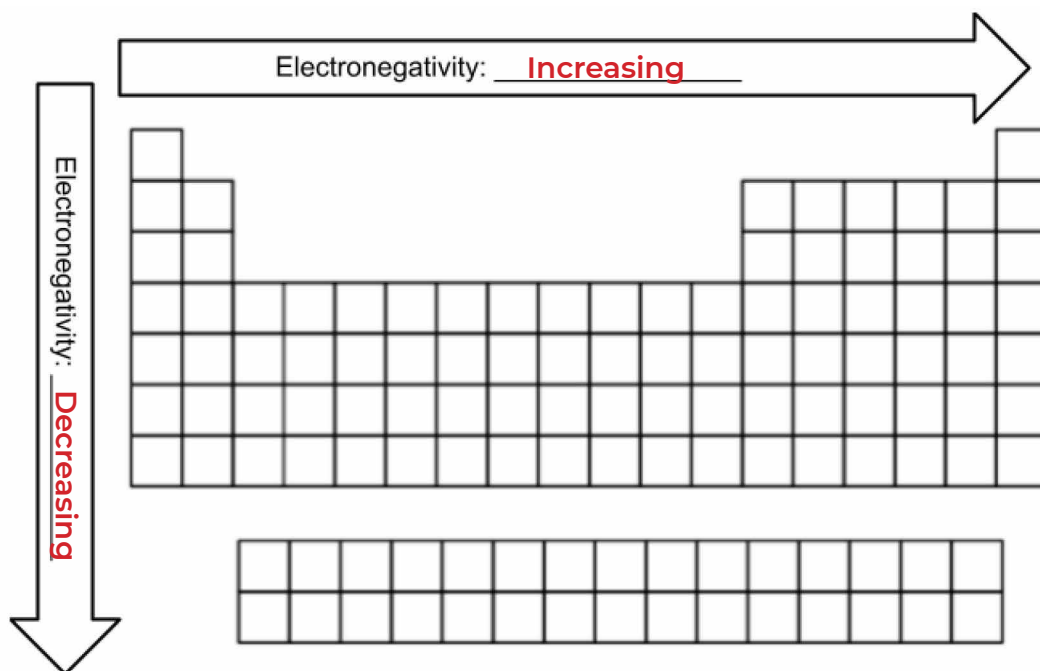


### OBJECTIVE 3

Demonstrate an understanding of the periodic table trends in electronegativity.

**TASK 4:** Take a look at the six original atoms that you made in the sandbox for task one. You should notice a red glow around them that varies in strength. This glow represents the **electronegativity** of the atom. Electronegativity describes an atom's tendency to attract electrons when it is bonded to another atom. It will become very important in later tutorials but shows a clear periodic table trend. Order these five elements in order of increasing electronegativity in the spaces below.

Cesium < Potassium < Lithium < Copper < Boron < Fluorine  
Least Most  
Electronegative Electronegative



#### LOCK IT IN:

Identify the trend in electronegativity as you go right across a period and down a group. Fill in the arrows with the terms "increasing" or "decreasing". Note that the last period does not follow this trend.



## CLOSURE

**CLOSURE:** Compare the two atoms below (chlorine and magnesium) on their proton numbers, number of electrons, atomic radii, effective nuclear charge, and electronegativities using only a periodic table. Enter a greater than (>) or less than (<) symbol into the table. Then provide a brief justification as to why you chose the symbol you did using what you have learned. Once you have done so, create the atoms in the Sandbox to confirm your comparisons.

17      12  
Cl      Mg

	<u>&gt; or &lt;</u>	<u>Justification</u>	<u>Prediction Correct? (Y/N)</u>
Proton Number	>	Chlorine has a higher atomic number.	YES
Number of Electrons	>	Chlorine has a greater number of protons.	YES
Atomic Radius	<	Magnesium is well to the left of chlorine in the same period.	YES
Effective Nuclear Charge on Valence Electrons	>	Chlorine is well to the right of magnesium in the same period.	YES
Electronegativity	>	Chlorine is well to the right of magnesium in the same period.	YES