



Sodium chloride crystallizes in a Face-Centered Cubic unit cell (FCC).

The cell is displayed here with sodium cations (in blue) defining FCC lattice sites, and chloride anions (in green) occupying all octahedral sites. The cell may be viewed equivalently with chloride anions defining the FCC and sodium cations in all octahedral sites.

Every ion has **SIX neighbors** of opposite charge arranged at vertices of an octahedron. So the Na : Cl coordination ratio is 6 : 6 or 1 : 1.