

Answer on Question #49681 - Chemistry – Inorganic Chemistry

Question

How do you write formulas using the criss-cross method

Answer:

The criss-cross method is a method of finding out the chemical formula of a metal and non-metal that combine to form an ionic bond.

To use this method, the absolute value of the oxidation number of the first ion is used as the subscript of the second, and vice versa. The subscripts are then reduced by the greatest common factor.

In a few words, just cross them and put them down without charges.

For instance, to find the formula for aluminium oxide:

The oxidation number of Al is +3 and oxygen is -2. Criss cross the absolute values to give Al_2O_3 .

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