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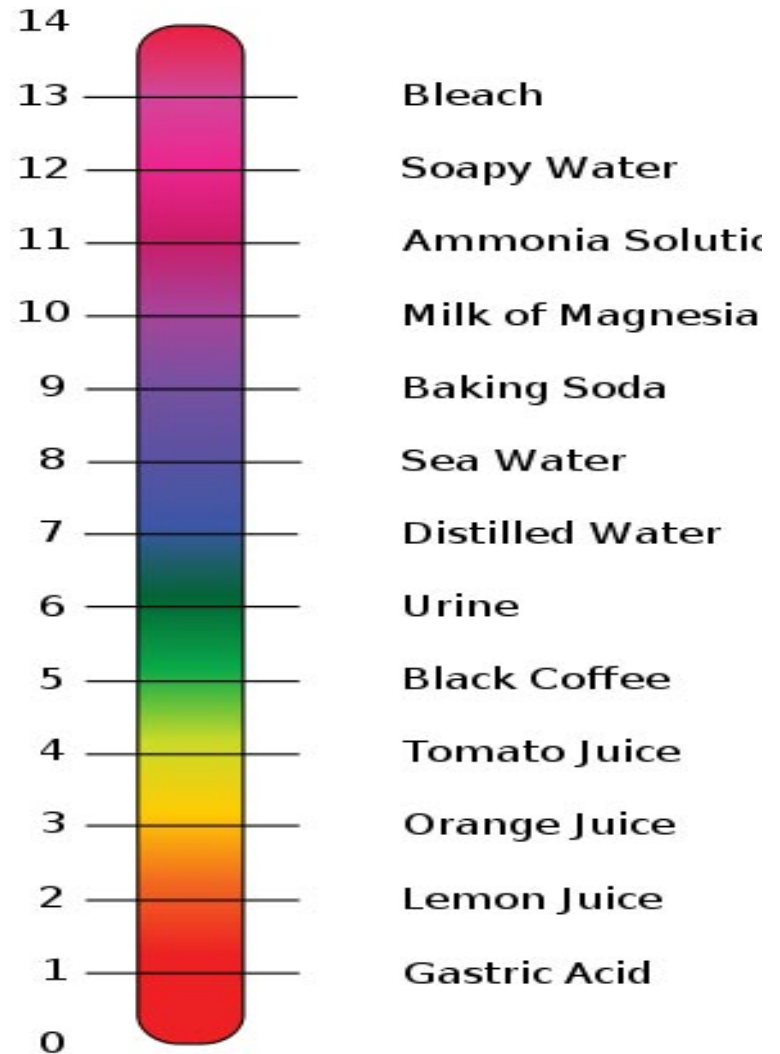
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Acids, Bases & Buffers

Importance of
The pH Scale
in Biology



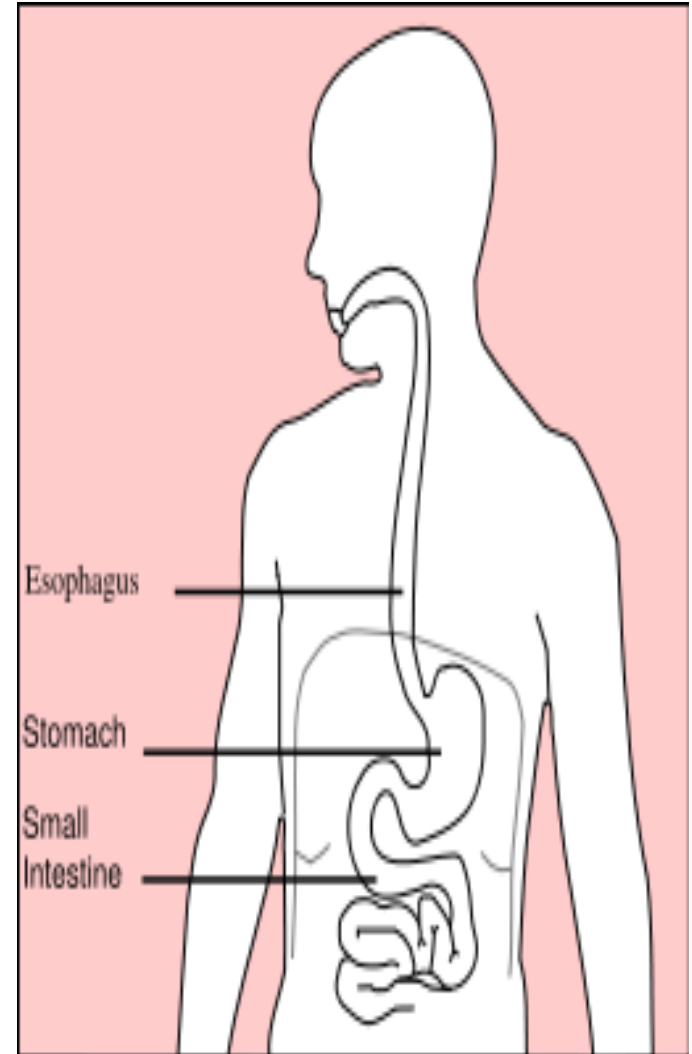
Everyday Science

Q: *Where is the most acidic area of your body?*

Q: *What would be the purpose of having acidic gastric juices in the stomach?*

WATCH THIS!

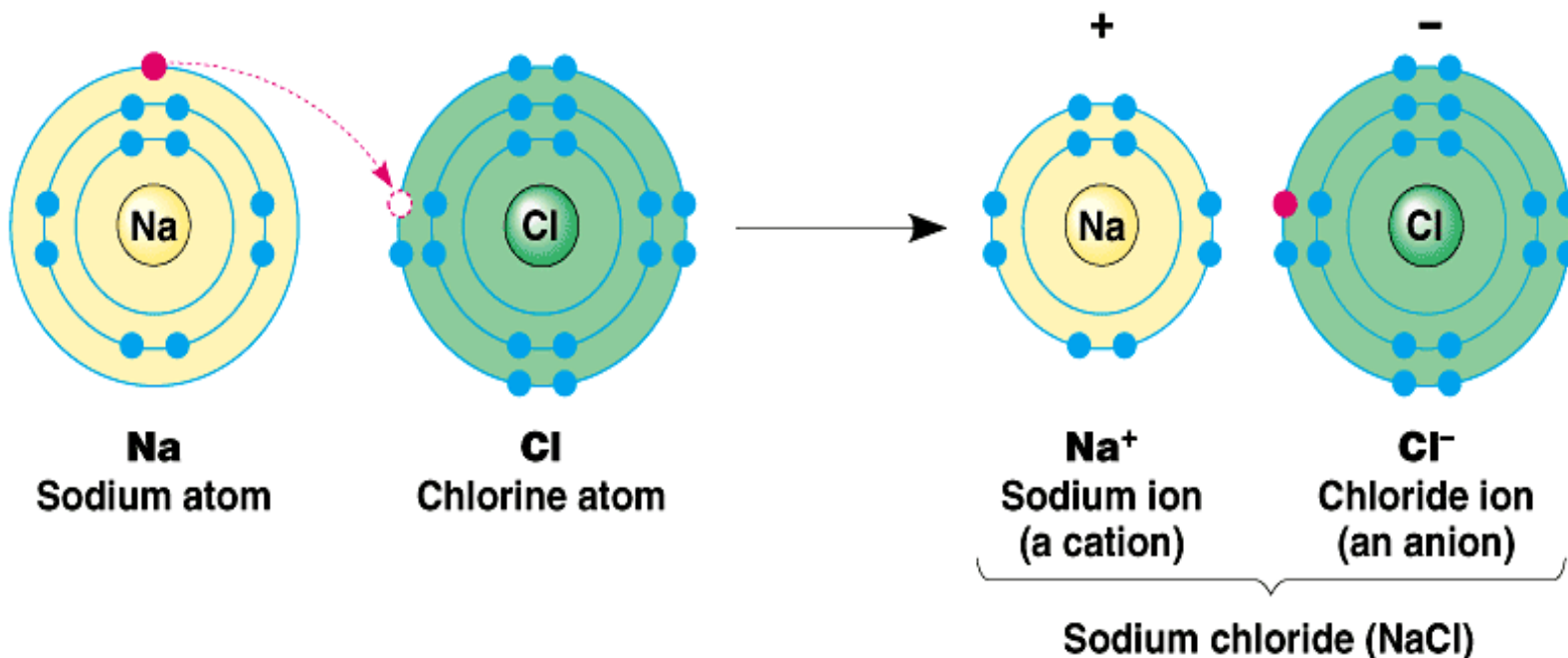
Ever wonder
how corrosive
human stomach
acid is?



Ionic Bonds

Involves transfer of electrons between two atoms.

Found mainly ... inorganic compounds.



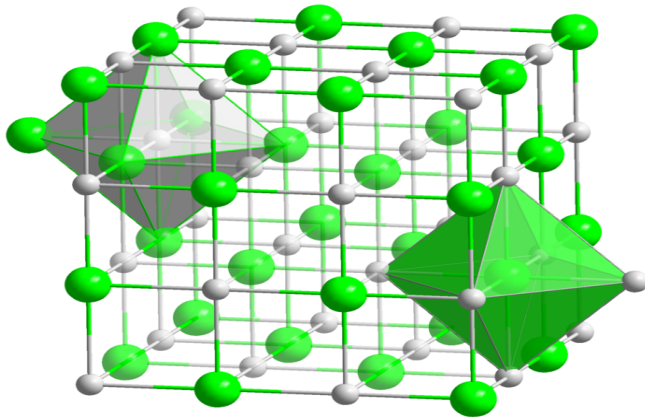
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Ion = an atom or group of atoms which have lost or gained one or more electrons, making them negatively or positively charged.

Q: *What are positively charged ions (+) called?*

Q: *What are negatively charged ions (-) called?*

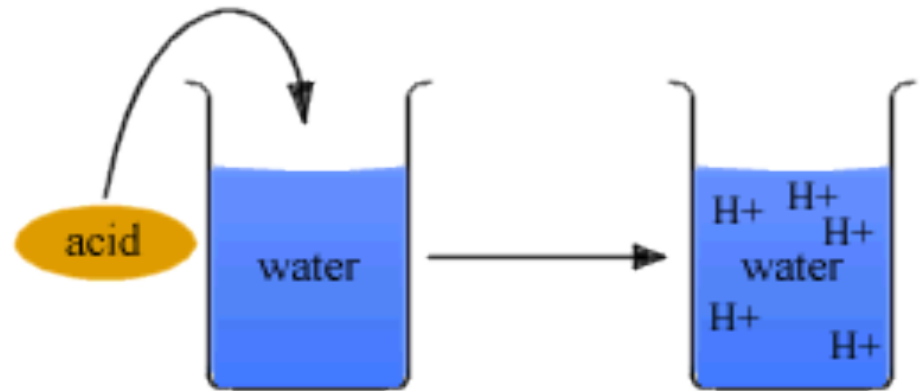
Ionic compounds are made of oppositely charged ions



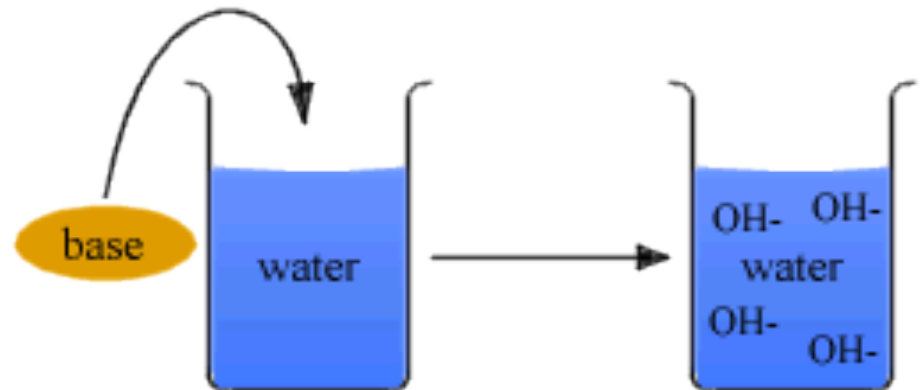
- Ionic Bonds are atoms held together by attraction between a (+) and a (-) ion
- **Compound is neutral overall**, but still charged on the inside.
- Makes solid crystals.

Ions: Acids & Bases

An **acid** is any ionic compound that releases hydrogen _____ (H^+) in solution.

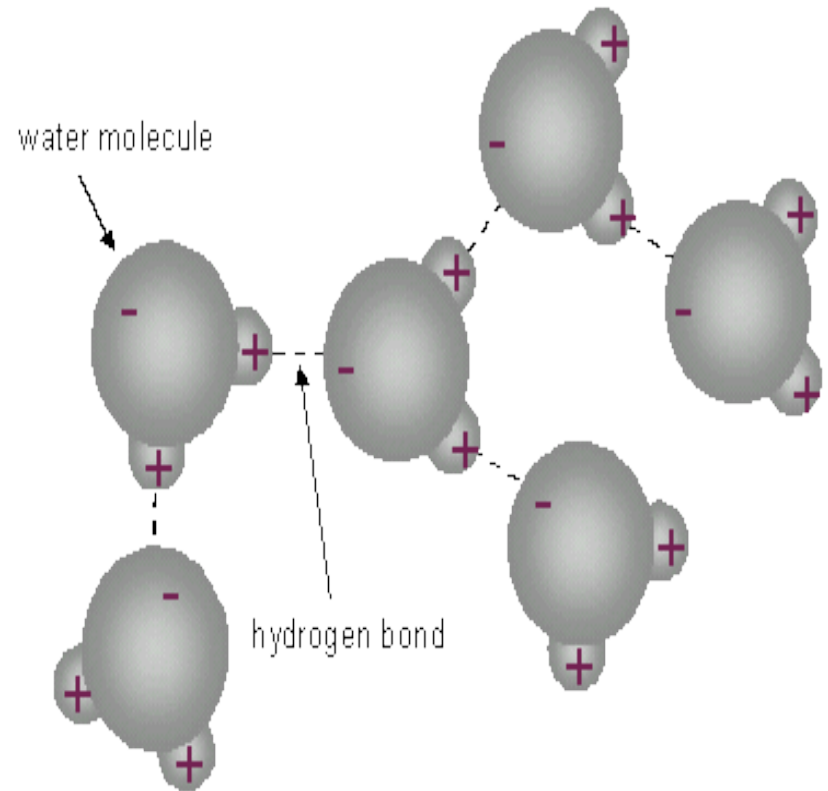
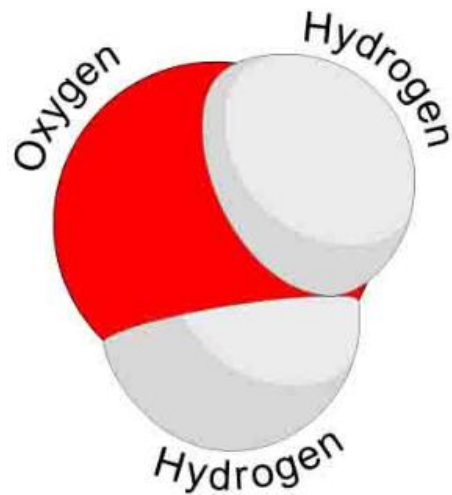


A **base** is any ionic compound that releases hydroxide _____ ($-OH$) in solution.

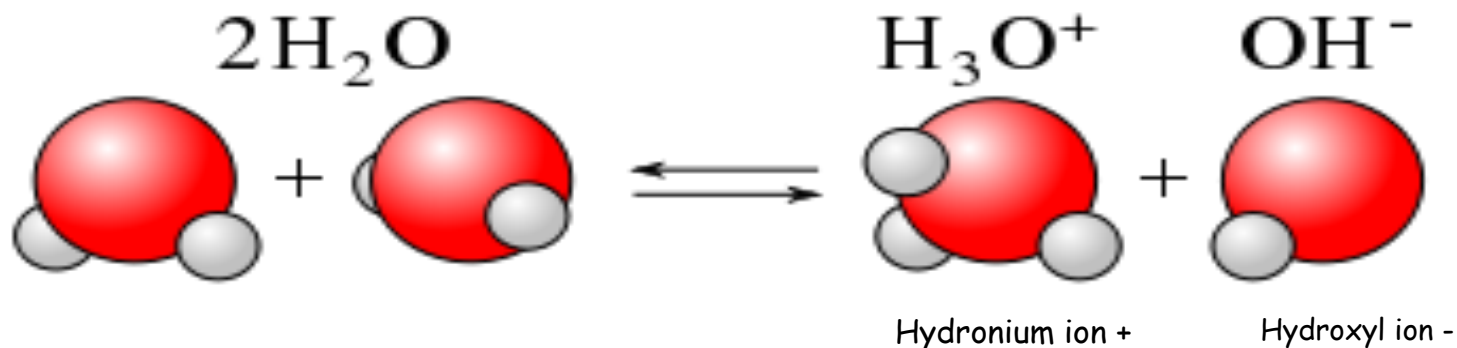


Another important characteristic of water...

Water can form acids and bases



Dissociation of Water



Neutral water has equal amounts of H^+ and OH^-

Acids: Excess of H^+ in aqueous solution

Bases: Excess of OH^- in aqueous solution

Acids & bases neutralize each other.

Measurements of Acidity & Alkalinity (pH)

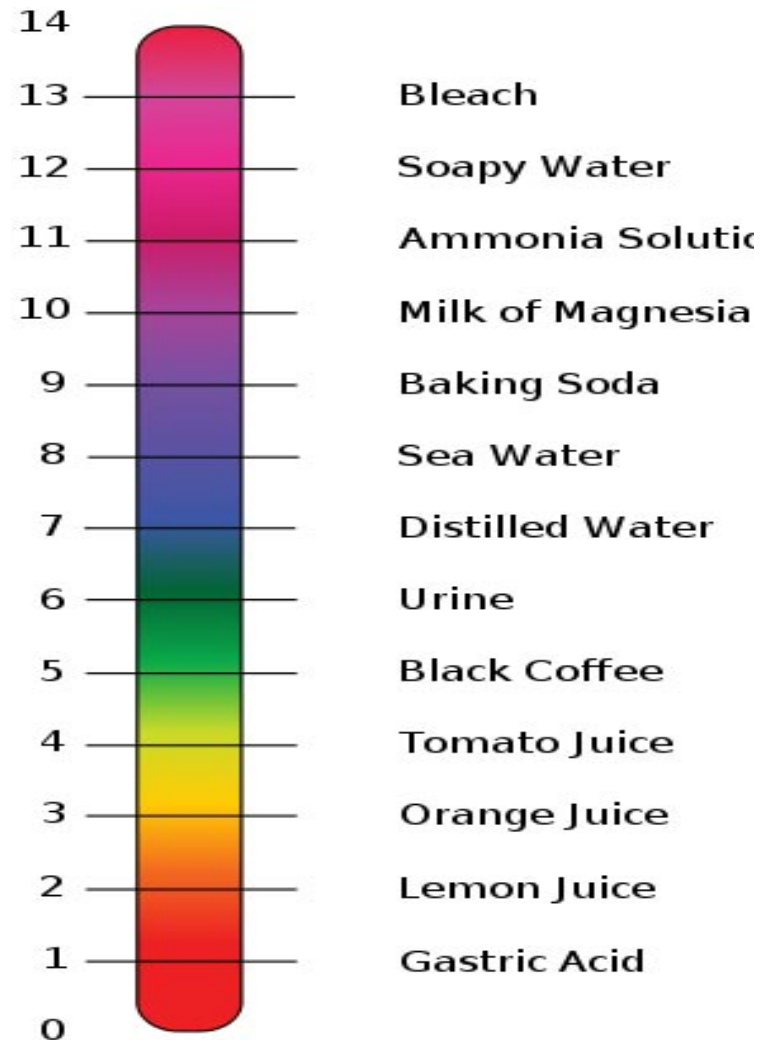
Acidity of a solution > measured by concentration of hydrogen ions (H^+) vs. hydroxyl ions (OH^-).

pH ranges: 0 (very acidic) to 14 (very basic).

pH scale is logarithmic.

Change in just one unit of scale = tenfold change in H^+ concentration.

If concentration of $H^+ = OH^-$... neutral.



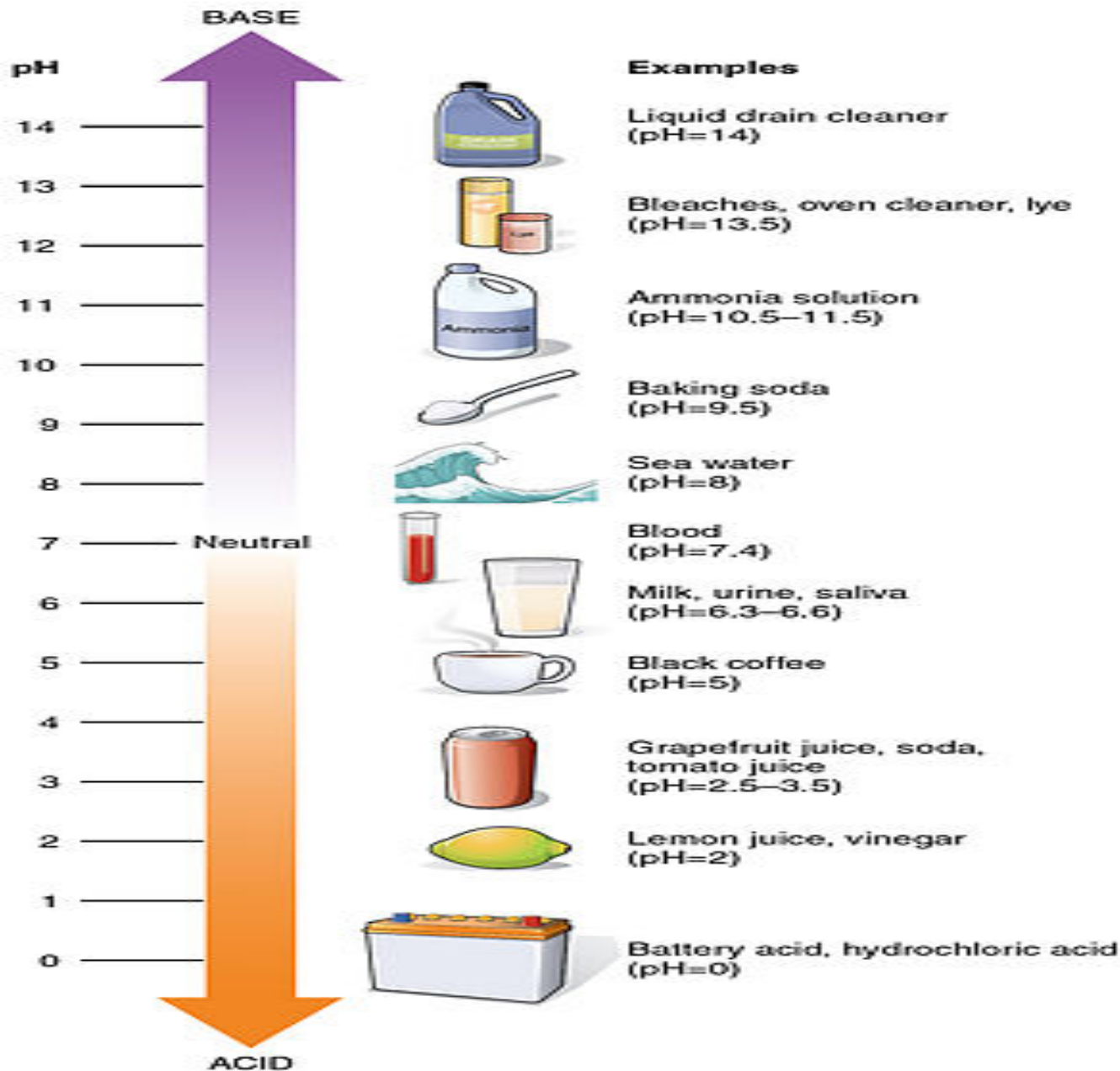
pH scale is logarithmic

Table 1. Correlation of pH values and Hydronium ion concentrations

pH	Hydronium ion concentration (moles/L)
1	.1 (1 × 10 ⁻¹)
2	.01 (1 × 10 ⁻²)
3	.001 (1 × 10 ⁻³)
4	.0001 (1 × 10 ⁻⁴)
5	.00001 (1 × 10 ⁻⁵)
6	.000001 (1 × 10 ⁻⁶)
7	.0000001 (1 × 10 ⁻⁷)
8	.00000001 (1 × 10 ⁻⁸)
9	.000000001 (1 × 10 ⁻⁹)
10	.0000000001 (1 × 10 ⁻¹⁰)
11	.00000000001 (1 × 10 ⁻¹¹)
12	.000000000001 (1 × 10 ⁻¹²)
13	.0000000000001 (1 × 10 ⁻¹³)
14	.00000000000001 (1 × 10 ⁻¹⁴)

Change in
just one unit
of scale
= tenfold
change in H⁺
concentration

More Examples of pH from Daily Life



Ions & Acids

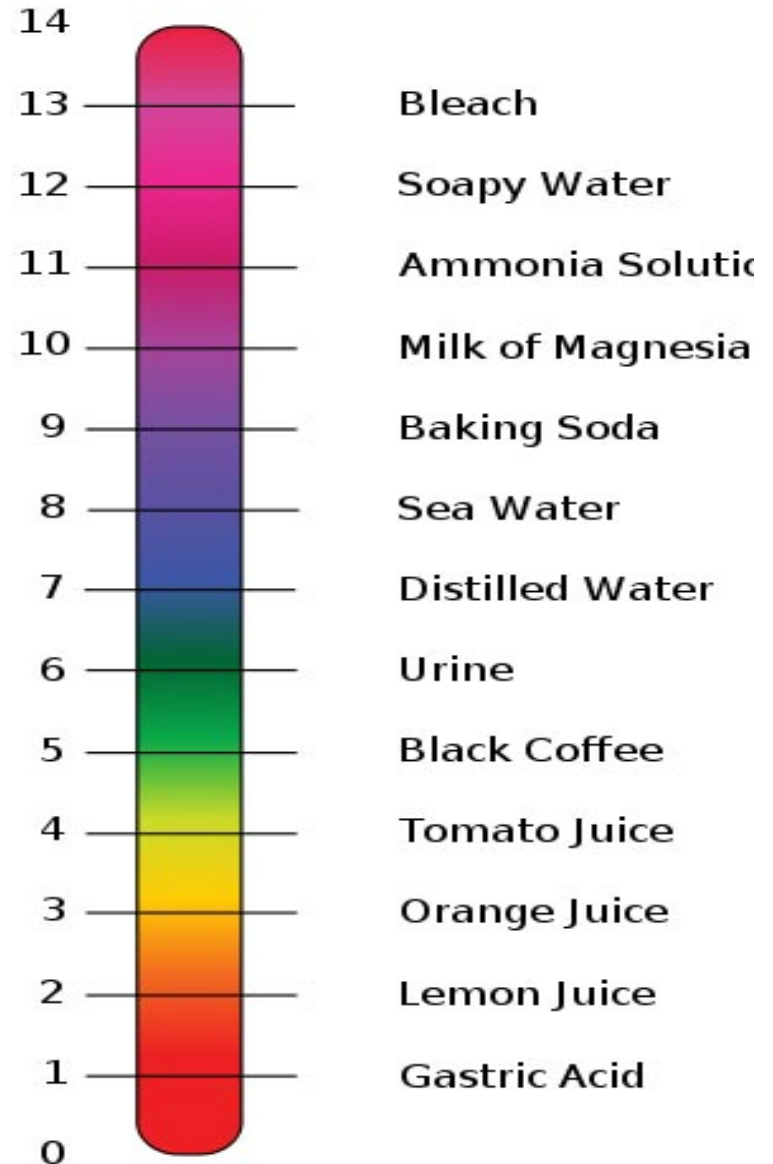
An **acid** is any ionic compound that releases hydrogen ions (H^+) in solution.

Weak acids have a sour taste.

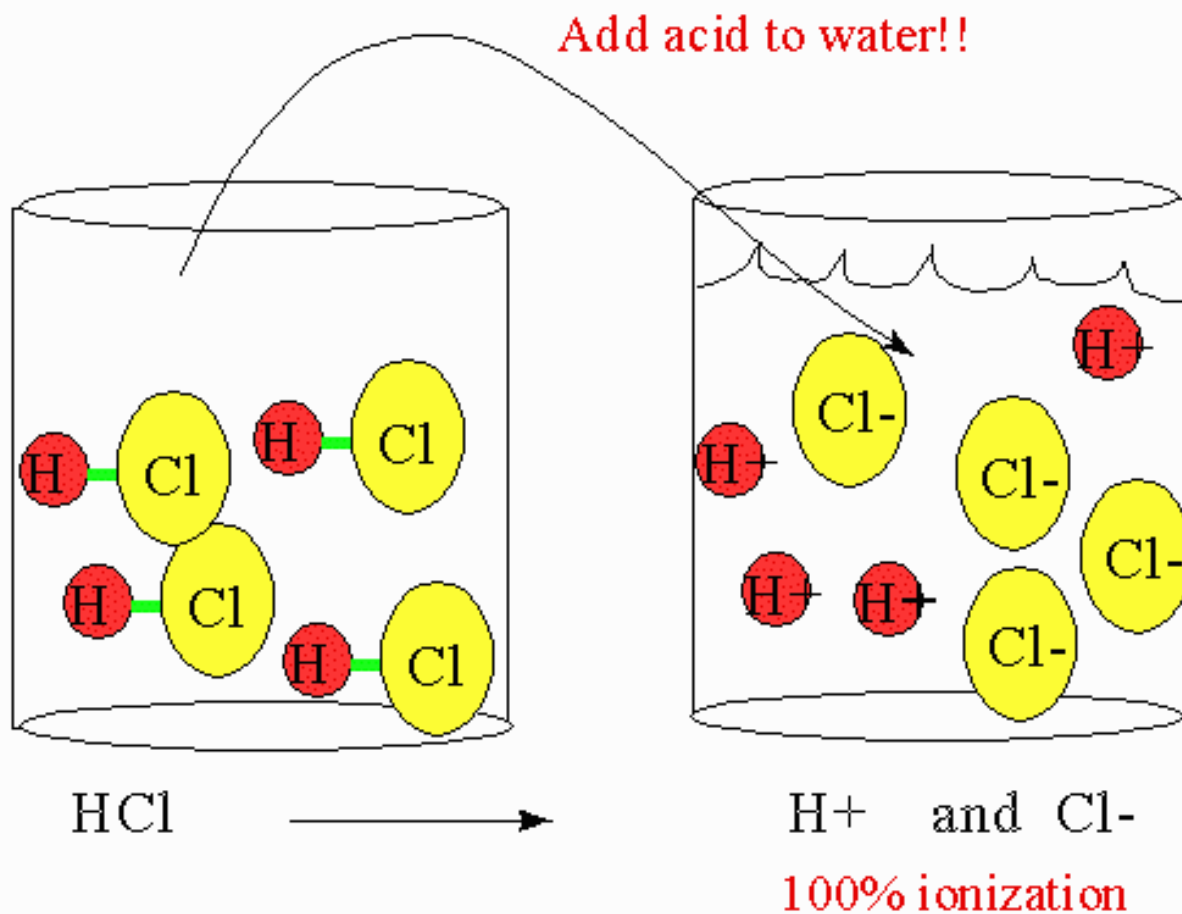
Strong acids are highly corrosive (So don't go around taste-testing acids.)

Examples:

- **Ascorbic acid** ($C_6H_8O_6$, Vitamin C)
- **Citric acid** ($C_6H_8O_7$, a weak organic acid in citrus fruits)
- **Phosphoric acid** (H_3PO_4 , in pop...this stuff is also used to remove rust...hmmm)

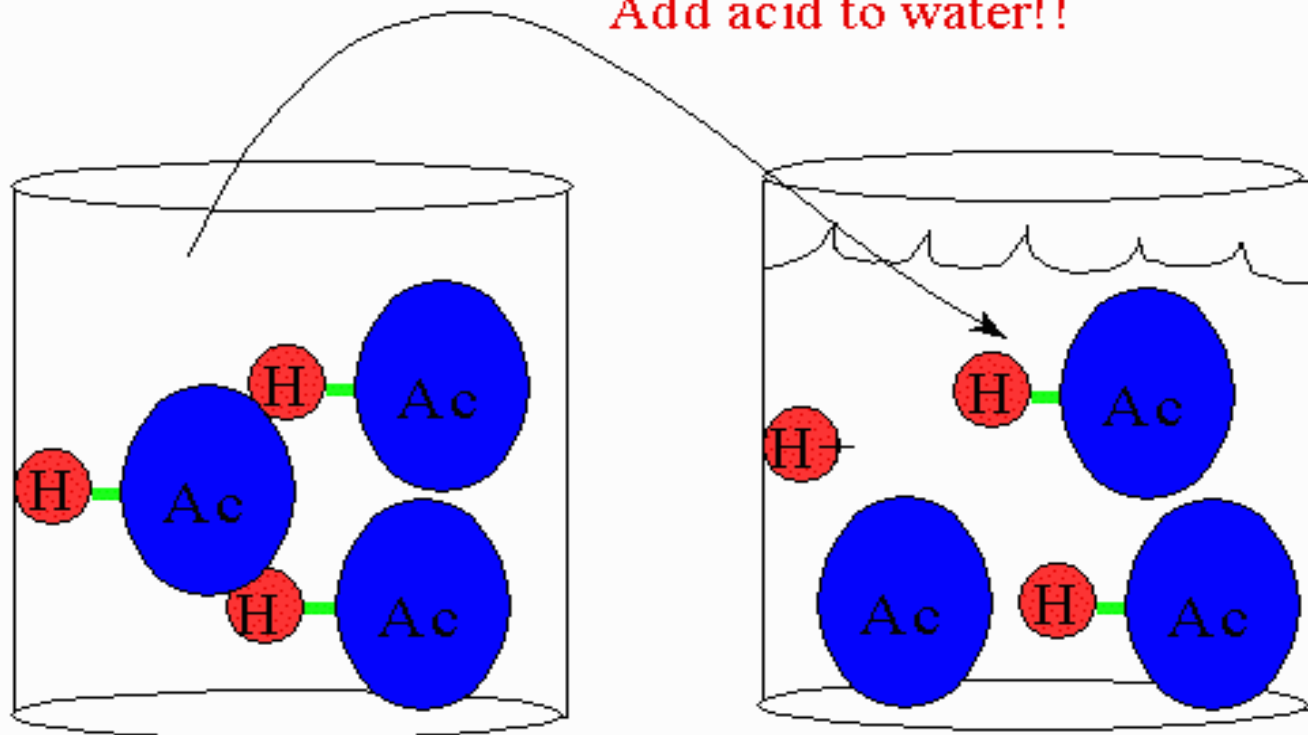


Strong acids completely dissociate in water.



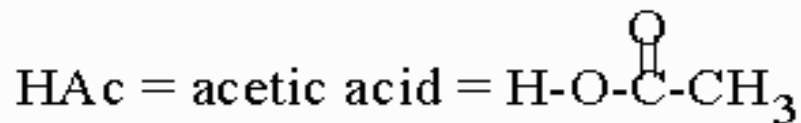
Weak acids DO NOT completely dissociate in water.

Add acid to water!!



HAc

H⁺ and Ac and HAc



partial ionization

Ions & Bases

A **base** is an ionic compound that releases hydroxyl ions (OH^-) in solution.

Bases are also called **alkaline** substances.

Some general properties of bases include:

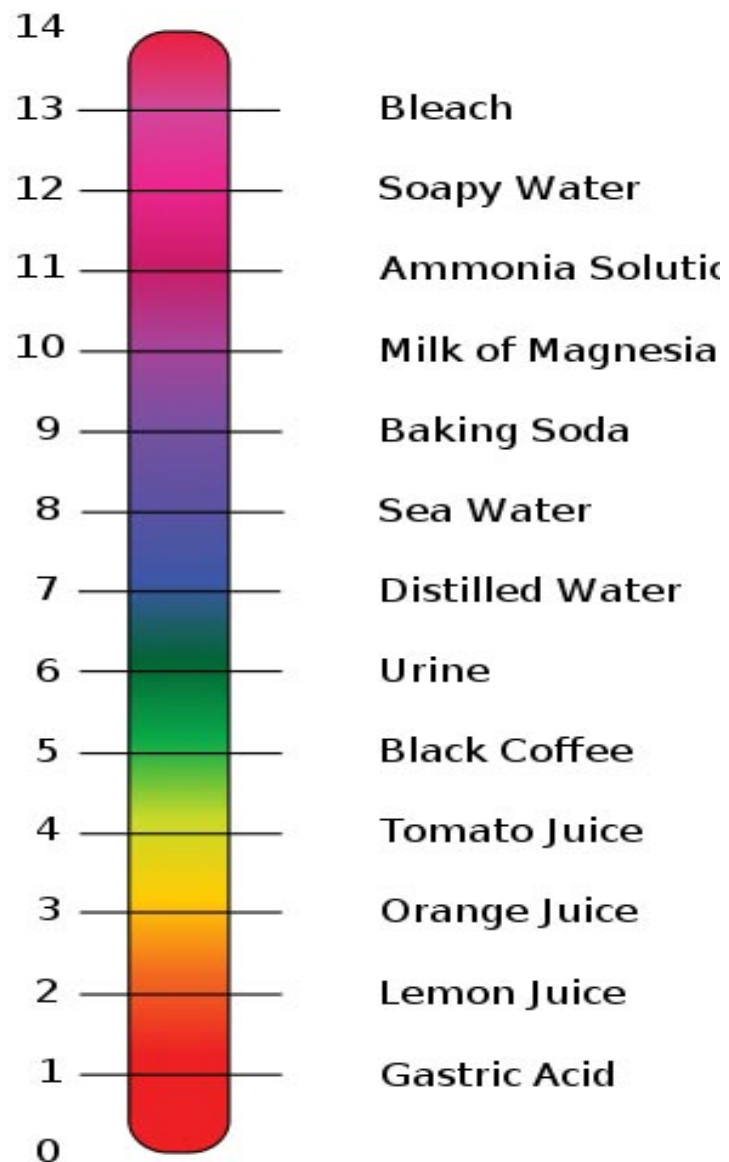
Taste: Bitter taste (opposed to sour taste of acids and sweetness of aldehydes and ketones).

Touch: Slimy or soapy feel on fingers.

Reactivity: Strong bases are caustic on organic matter, react violently with acidic substances.

Examples:

- **Sodium hydroxide**, NaOH , of lye or caustic soda used in oven cleaners.
- **Magnesium hydroxide**, $\text{Mg}(\text{OH})_2$, also known as milk of magnesia, a weak base used in antacids and laxatives.



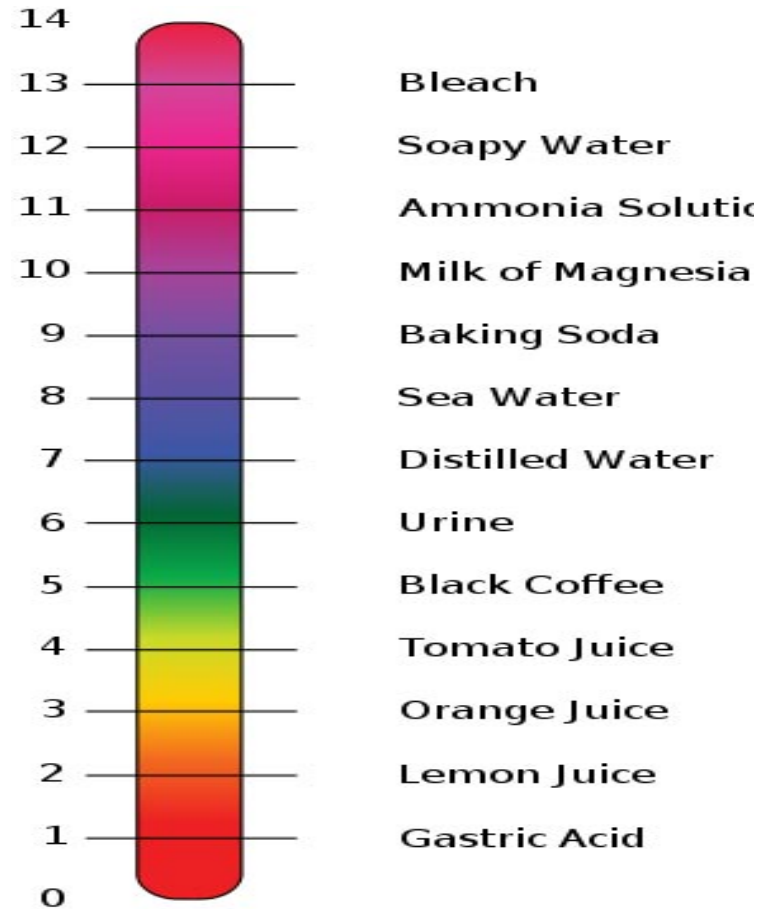
Acid/Base Balance in Biology

pH balance is important to homeostasis of organisms.

Homeostasis = tendency of the body to maintain a balanced internal environment, even when faced with external changes. Such as the body's ability to maintain an internal temperature around 98.6 degrees F, whatever the temperature outside.

Examples:

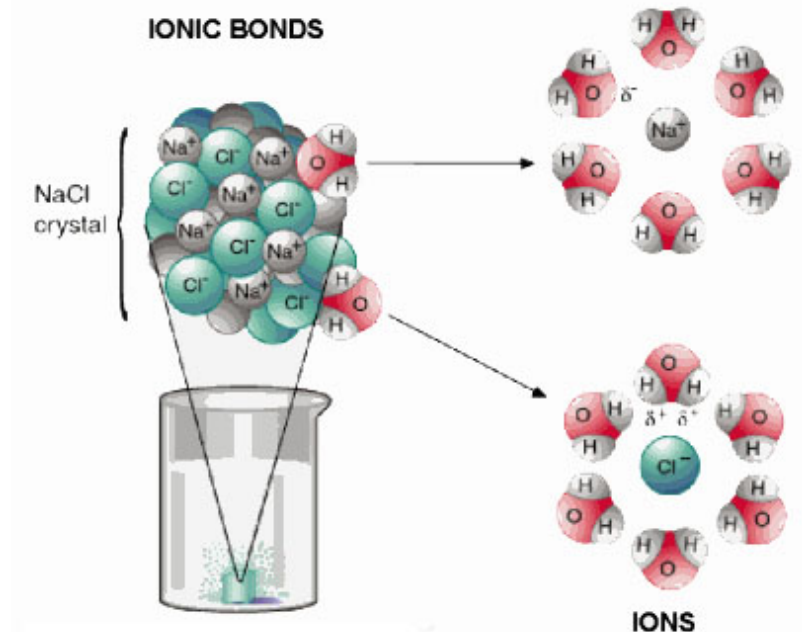
- Digestion needs acidic environment (pH 2-3)
- Urine is slightly acidic
- Blood must stay in neutral range near 7.35 to 7.45



[Acids, Bases & You](#),
and in-depth YouTube
video.

Ions & Salts

- Compounds that dissociate in water and produce cations other than H^+ and anions other than OH^- are called **salts**.
- The most familiar salt is **sodium chloride**, the principal component of **common table salt**.
- **Other examples of salts:**
Baking soda ($NaHCO_3$)
Epsom Salts ($MgSO_4$)

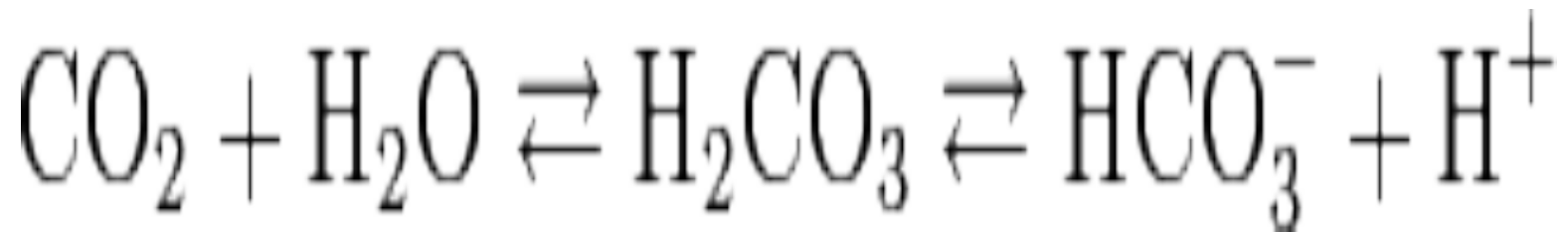


Salts: The Role of Buffers

- Certain salts, called **buffers**, can combine with excess hydrogen (H^+) or hydroxide (OH^-) ions.
- Produce substances less acidic or alkaline.
- Act like a chemical sponge to soak up excess acid or base, keep pH constant.
- Buffers can be "used up". Once used up, no longer help regulate pH.
- Buffers are vital to maintaining pH in organisms.
- **Example:**
Antacids are buffers made of the salt calcium carbonate ($CaCO_3$).



Bicarbonate Buffer system is important in maintaining proper **blood pH**

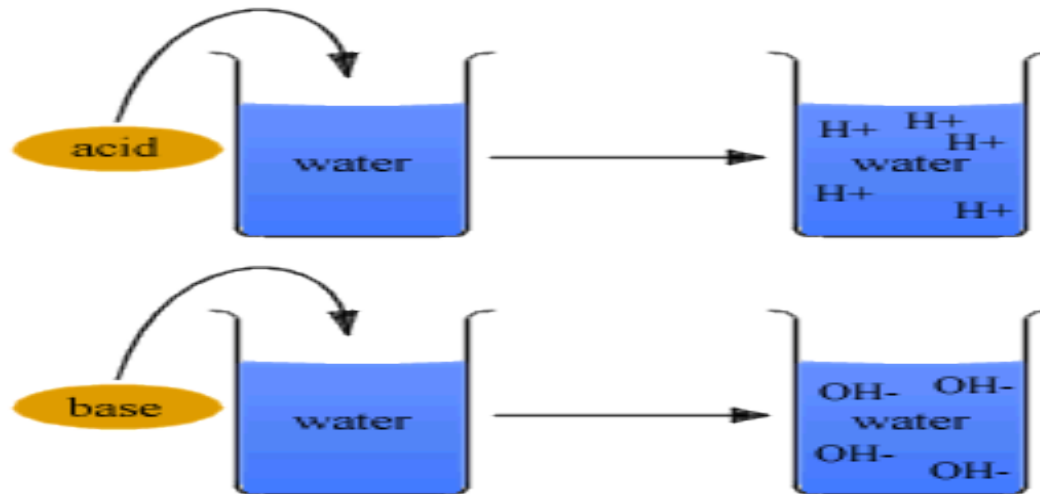


Videos:

1. [Bicarbonate Buffer System & pH imbalances](#)
2. [Bicarbonate Buffer System](#) from John Wiley

REVIEW!

Interactive animated lessons on pH: Acids & Bases and Buffers



Tools that can be used to measure pH:

Litmus Paper



- Litmus paper comes in two colors, red or blue.
- Acidic substances turn blue litmus paper red.
- Basic (alkaline) substances turn red litmus paper blue.

Tools that can be used to measure pH:

Hydrion Paper



- Hydrion paper is used to measure pH to the nearest whole number.
- These “dip sticks” have colored squares (indicators) that change color in the presence of specific pH ranges.
- You can determine the pH value to the nearest whole number by matching the colors on the key to the hydrion paper after you dip it into a substance and wait a few seconds.

Tools that can be used to measure pH:

pH Meter



- A pH meter can be used to measure pH to the nearest tenth (0.1) or hundredth (0.01) depending on the instrument.
- pH meters must be calibrated in pH 7 buffer solution before you can use them to measure pH.
- The meter should be rinsed in water after each use and kept in water when not in use.

Q: Which of the three pH measuring tools do you think is most accurate?

Confused?

Here are some links to fun resources that further explain Chemistry:

- [Acids & Bases Are Everywhere](#) from Chem4Kids website by Rader.
- [Acid & Bases, an Introduction](#) by Vision Learning
- [Acids, Bases & You](#), and in-depth YouTube video.
- [Buffer System](#) YouTube video.
- [Bicarbonate Buffer System & pH imbalances](#) YouTube video.

(You must be in PPT slideshow view to click on links.)

Smart Links

