



Common Names and Formulas of Important Chemical Compounds

Generally questions from the topic **Common Names and Formulas of Important Chemical Compounds** are asked in every competitive exam. So, here are short notes on Common Names and Formulas of Important Chemical Compounds which will be useful for upcoming SSC as well as other competitive exams as well.

Common Names and Formulas of Important Chemical Compounds

Chemical formulas provide a lot of information about chemical substances, such as how many and what atoms they are made of, as well as the way the atoms are arranged.

A **compound** is a substance made up of a definite proportion of two or more elements. With the help of Chemical formulas, you can check number of atoms and elements in the compound.

Common Name of Compound	Chemical Name of Compound	Chemical Formula	Uses of Compound
Aqua Fortis/ Spirit of Niter	Nitric Acid	HNO_3	Aqua fortis is used in the production of explosives, and fertilizers
Baking Soda	Sodium Bicarbonate or Sodium Hydrogen Carbonate	NaHCO_3	Baking soda is the main ingredient which is used in baking
Blue Vitriol	Copper Sulphate	$\text{CuSO}_4 \cdot x\text{H}_2\text{O}$	Blue Vitriol is used in insecticides and germicides, and also as electrolytes for batteries
Bleaching Powder	Calcium Oxychloride	CaOCl_2	Bleaching powder is mainly used in textile industry for bleaching cotton and linen
Bleach/ Antiformin/ Chloride of Soda	Sodium Hypochlorite	NaOCl	Sodium Hypochlorite is used on a large scale for bleaching, surface purification, water disinfection and odour removal
Borax	Sodium Tetraborate Decahydrate/ Sodium Borate	$\text{Na}_2[\text{B}_4\text{O}_5(\text{OH})_4] \cdot 8\text{H}_2\text{O}$	Borax is used a cleaner and it is also used as a ingredient in paint, herbicides, toothpastes, skin creams, moisturizers, etc.
Calomel	Mercurous Chloride	Hg_2Cl_2	Calomel is used a fungicide, it was previously used treat malaria and yellow fever
Carborundum	Silicon Carbide	SiC	Carborundum is mainly used as an abrasive for cutting, polishing, grinding, and as an antislip additive



Carbolic Acid/ Phenol / Hydroxybenzene Phenic Acid	Phenol	C_6H_5OH	Carbolic acid is one of the oldest antiseptic agents and used as a disinfectant in household cleaners
Caustic Potash	Potassium Hydroxide	KOH	Caustic potash is used in potassium soaps and detergents and in liquid fertilizers
Chile Saltpetre	Sodium Nitrate	$NaNO_3$	Chile Saltpetre is a agricultural source of nitrogen is used for making fertilizers, high-strength glasses and explosives
Caustic Soda	Sodium Hydroxide	NaOH	Caustic soda is used in the manufacture of paper and pulp, alumina, soap, detergents and petroleum products. It is also used for water treatment, metal processing, mining, etc.
Cream of Tartar	Potassium Hydrogen Tartrate/ Potassium Bitartrate	$KC_4H_5O_6$	Cream of tartar is used in the bakery for stabilizing egg whites
Chloroform	Trichloromethane	$CHCl_3$	Chloroform is used a solvent for floor polishes and lacquer. It is also used in paper, board and pesticide industries
CFC-12/ Freon-12	Dichlorodifluoromethane	CCl_2F_2	CFC-12 is used as a refrigerant in air conditioners and refrigerators
Dolomite	Calcium Magnesium Carbonate	$CaMg(CO_3)_2$	Dolomite is used as a element for production of glass, ceramics and bricks
Dry Ice	Solid Carbon Dioxide	CO_2	Dry Ice is actually solid form of CO_2 . It is mainly used as a cooling agent, and in theatres for dramatic effects
Epsom Salt	Magnesium Sulphate Heptahydrate	$MgSO_4 \cdot 7H_2O$	Epsom salt is used to treat body aches, pain and inflammation
Galena	Lead (II) Sulphide	PbS	Galena is a mined for its silver content and it is a primary ore of lead
Glauber's Salt	Sodium Sulphate Decahydrate	$Na_2SO_4 \cdot 10H_2O$	It is used for medicinal purposes for the removal of



			certain drugs overdose such as paracetamol
Glycerol	Propane-1,2,3-triol	$C_3H_8O_3$	Glycerol is used in food and beverages industry, it serves as a solvent, humectant and also helps in food preservation
Green Vitriol	Ferrous Sulphate Heptahydrate	$FeSO_4 \cdot 7H_2O$	Green vitriol is used for treatment against moss on the lawn and to treat iron clorosis of vine, berries and fruit trees
Gypsum	Calcium Sulphate Dihydrate	$CaSO_4 \cdot 2H_2O$	Gypsum is used a retarder in Portland cement, and filler in paper and textiles
Heavy Water	Deuterium Oxide	D_2O	D_2O is used as neutron moderator in nuclear reactors
Hematite	Iron (III) Oxide/ Ferric Oxide	Fe_2O_3	Hematite is used to preparation of heavy metal separation, radiation shielding and to produce pigments
Hypo Solution	Sodium Thiosulphate Pentahydrate	$Na_2S_2O_3 \cdot 5H_2O$	Hypo solution is mainly used for photographic paper processing
Laughing Gas	Dinitrogen Monoxide/ Nitrous Oxide	N_2O	Nitrous Oxide is used by dentists to make the patients comfortable during certain procedures
Quick Lime/ Burnt Lime	Calcium Oxide	CaO	Quick Lime is mainly used in the production of steel, paper and pulp production, treatment of water
Slaked Lime	Calcium Hydroxide	$Ca(OH)_2$	Slaked Lime is used in plasters, cements, and mortars
Limestone	Calcium Carbonate	$CaCO_3$	Limestone is used in building material, it is also one of the main ingredient in toothpaste
Litharge (Red) and Massicot (Yellow)	Lead (II) Oxide/ Lead Monoxide	PbO	Massicot and Litharge are used in the production of lead stabilizers, lead glass, enamels, and pottery
Methyl Ethyl Ketone/ Butanone	Butan-2-one	C_4H_8O	Butanone is the is main ingredient in paint formation



Marsh Gas	Methane	CH_4	Methane at high temperature reacts with steam to form Carbon Monoxide and Hydrogen. The product is used in the production of ammonia for fertilizers and explosives
Milk of Magnesia	Magnesium Hydroxide	$\text{Mg}(\text{OH})_2$	Milk of Magnesia acts as an antacid which helps at the time of indigestion, heartburn and sour stomach
Mohr's Salt	Ammonium Iron (II) Sulphate	$(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{Fe}(\text{SO}_4)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$	Mohr's Salt is used to enhance the shelf life of iron and lower the level of oxidation
Muriatic Acid	Hydrochloric Acid	HCl	Muriatic Acid is used in leather processing, food additive, and in gelatin production
Oil of Vitriol	Sulphuric Acid	H_2SO_4	Sulphuric Acid is used for making fertilizer
Phosgene	Carbonyl Dichloride	COCl_2	Phosgene is used for making pesticides and plastics
Plaster of Paris	Calcium Sulphate Hemihydrate	$\text{CaSO}_4 \cdot 1/2\text{H}_2\text{O}$	Plaster of Paris is mainly used as a protective coating on ceilings and walls. It is also used for making sculptures
Potash Alum/ Potassium Alum	Potassium Aluminum Sulphate Dodecahydrate	$\text{KAl}(\text{SO}_4)_2 \cdot 12\text{H}_2\text{O}$	Potash Alum is mainly used in the purification of water, dyeing, and leather tanning
Propan-2-ol	Isopropyl Alcohol	$(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{CHOH}$	Isopropyl Alcohol is mainly used to treat tremors, hypertension, chest pain, heart rhythm disorder and other circulatory conditions
Quartz	Silicon Dioxide (Silica)	SiO_2	Quartz is used in making of glass, hydraulic fracturing proppant, foundry sand, and gemstones
Quicksilver	Mercury	Hg	Mercury is mainly used in barometers, thermostats, and thermometers
Rochelle Salt	Potassium Sodium Tartrate	$\text{KNaC}_4\text{H}_4\text{O}_6 \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$	Rochelle salt is used in the production of gelatins and pectins
Sal Ammoniac	Ammonium Chloride	NH_4Cl	Ammonium Chloride is used industries as a cleaning agent



Saltpetre	Potassium Nitrate	KNO_3	Saltpetre is commonly used as a food preservative
Slaked Lime	Calcium Hydroxide	Ca(OH)_2	Slaked Lime is used to form mortars, cements and plasters
Table Salt/ Common Salt	Sodium Chloride	NaCl	Common Salt enhances the flavour of food and also plays a key role in food preservation
TNT	Trinitrotoluene	$\text{C}_6\text{H}_2(\text{NO}_2)_3\text{CH}_3$	TNT is used in bombs, military shells and grenades
Vermillion/ Cinnabar	Mercuric Sulphide	HgS	It is used in colour paints and also as one of the red coloring agents used in tattoo dyes
Washing Soda	Sodium Carbonate Decahydrate	$\text{NaCO}_3 \cdot 10\text{H}_2\text{O}$	Washing Soda is used to unclog drains and in commercial detergent mixtures to treat hard water
Wintergreen Oil	Methyl Salicylate	$\text{C}_8\text{H}_8\text{O}_3$	Wintergreen oil is used in the traditional medicine for bacterial infections
White Vitriol	Zinc Sulphate	$\text{ZnSO}_4 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$	White Vitriol is used in the manufacture of rayon fabric. It is used in eye drops and also for preserving skins and wood



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