Groups and Periods

What are groups?

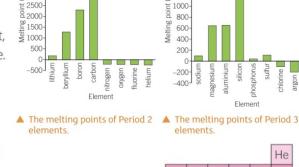
In the Periodic Table, the vertical columns are called **groups**. The elements in a group have similar properties. Going down a group, there is a pattern in the properties such as melting point, boiling point, and **density**. Density is how much mass something has for its volume.

What are periods?

The horizontal rows of the Periodic Table are called **periods**. Going across a period, there are patterns in the properties of the elements.

The bar charts show the melting points of the Period 2 and Period 3 elements.

Some Periodic Tables show 18 groups, these include the Transition Elements, many use 1-7 Groups with the Noble Gases as Group 0.



1400

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		Perio	od 1	Н														Не
Period 2	Li	Ве											В	С	N	0	F	Ne
Period 3	Na	Mg											Al	Si	Р	S	CI	Ar
Period 4	K	Ca	Sc	Ti	٧	Cr	Mn	Fe	Co	Ni	Cu	Zn	Ga	Ge	As	Se	Br	Kr
Period 5	Rb	Sr	Υ	Zr	Nb	Мо	Тс	Ru	Rh	Pd	Ag	Cd	In	Sn	Sb	Те	1	Xe
Period 6	Cs	Ва	La	Hf	Та	W	Re	Os	lr	Pt	Au	Hg	TI	Pb	Bi	Ро	At	Rn
Period 7	Fr	Ra	Ac															

Some periods of the Periodic Table.

3500

2500

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Li 0.152 0.077 0.070 0.066 0.064 Na Mg Al 0.186 0.143 0.117 0.110 0.104 0.099

Atomic radius shown in nanometres $(10^{-9}m = 0.00000001m)$

Melting and Boiling Points increase in metals as we cross from left to right in the period, this is because there are more 'delocalised electrons' in the 'sea of electrons' which produce a stronger attraction to the positive metal cations. This creates a stronger metallic bond requiring more energy to break.

Similarly atomic radius decreases due to the stronger pull by the nucleus (as its own positive charge increases) on the electrons (think....pulling your belt in - as your pull increases (gets tighter), your waistline gets smaller!).

Н He Li Be B C N O F Ne Al Si P S Cl Ar Na Mg K Ca Sc Ti V Cr Mn Fe Co Ni Cu Zn Ga Ge As Se Br Kr Rb Sr Y Zr Nb Mo Tc Ru Rh Pd Ag Cd In Sn Sb Te I Xe Cs Ba La Ce Pr Nd Pm Sm Eu Gd Tb Dy Ho Er Tm Yb Lu Hf Ta W Re Os Ir Pt Au Hg Tl Pb Bi Po At Rn Fr Ra Ac Th Pa U Np Pu Am Cm Bk Cf Es Fm Md No Lr Rf Db Sg Bh Hs Mt Ds Rg Cn Nh FI Mc Lv Ts Og

Mini Periodic Table - How many of the elements can you name from memory?

The tables show data for elements near palladium in the Periodic Table. Each table shows the elements in one group.

Element	Melting point (°C)
iron	1535
ruthenium	2500
osmium	3000

Element	Melting point (°C)
cobalt	1492
rhodium	1970
iridium	2440

Element	Melting point (°C)
nickel	1453
palladium	
platinum	1769

Sophie studies the data. She makes this prediction:

For the groups headed by iron and cobalt, melting point increases from top to bottom. The nickel group is likely to show the same pattern. So I predict that the melting point of palladium is between 1453 °C and 1769 °C.

A data book gives the melting point of palladium as 1550 °C. Sophie's prediction is correct.

Group and Period Trends

As we go across a Period, a row, of the Periodic Table, from left to right as we FACE the Table, we add another positive charge (a proton, a fundamental, positively charged nuclear particle) to the nucleus.

This results in a DECREASE in atomic radii across the Period, due to the increased nuclear charge which draws in the valence electrons.

On the other hand, going down a Group, we go to another so-called shell of electrons, that build on the preceding shell. Atomic radius thus INCREASES down the Group.