



Compounds

Different elements can react with one another to chemically bond together, making new structures called compounds. Most substances around us are made up of different compounds.

Iron and sulfur compound

The elements iron and sulfur react and bond together to form the compound pyrite. Iron is magnetic, sulfur is brittle, but pyrite is neither magnetic nor brittle.

Iron



Sulfur

Iron and sulfur undergo a reaction.



Iron and sulfur compound



Key Facts

- ✓ Most elements can undergo a reaction to form compounds.
- ✓ Compounds are made of atoms of one or more elements that are bonded together.
- ✓ The properties of a compound are different from the properties of the separate elements it's made of.
- ✓ Elements in a compound can only be separated using chemical reactions.

Atoms in Compounds

When atoms bond together to make a compound, they create a new structure. This gives the compound new physical and chemical properties. For example, in pyrite, iron and sulfur atoms bond together in a regular three-dimensional arrangement.

