

Calculating Molecular Masses

When chemicals are reacted, it is important to know how much of each chemical are in the reactants and how much is produced in the products. This number might be in grams or numbers of atoms or molecules. A convenient measure is called the **mole** which is written as **mol** when used as a unit of chemical quantity. The term **molecular weight** (also called molecular mass, atomic weight) is used to quantify chemicals. Even though it is not a weight (a force in physics), but actually a mass, the term molecular weight is more commonly used. A related term formula weight is a bit different, but we will only be concerned with molecular weight/mass.

Grouping for Eggs	Dozens and Eggs	Grouping for Atoms/Molecules	Moles and Atoms/Molecules
Dozen Size	1 dozen = 12 things	Mole Size	1 mol = 6.02×10^{23} things
Mass per dz of Eggs	Jumbo: = 852 g/dz large: = 684 g/dz small: = 516 g/dz	Mass per mol of Atoms	H: 1.01 g/mol S: 32.06 g/mol O: 16.00 g/mol (from Periodic Table of Elements)
Mass of an Egg	Jumbo: $(852 \text{ g/dz}) / (12 \text{ eggs/dz})$ = 71 g/egg large: $(684 \text{ g/dz}) / (12 \text{ eggs/dz})$ = 57 g/egg small: $(516 \text{ g/dz}) / (12 \text{ eggs/dz})$ = 43 g/egg	Mass of an Atom	H: $(1.01 \text{ g/mol}) / (6.02 \times 10^{23} \text{ atoms/mol})$ = 1.68×10^{-24} g/atom S: $(32.06 \text{ g/mol}) / (6.02 \times 10^{23} \text{ atoms/mol})$ = 5.33×10^{-23} g/atom O: $(16.00 \text{ g/mol}) / (6.02 \times 10^{23} \text{ atoms/mol})$ = 2.66×10^{-23} g/atom
Basket Content	2 small, 1 jumbo, 4 large	Molecule	H_2SO_4
Mass of Basket	$2 \times 43 \text{ g} + 1 \times 71 \text{ g} + 4 \times 57 \text{ g}$ = 385 g	Mass of H_2SO_4 Molecule	$2 \times 1.68 \times 10^{-24} \text{ g} + 1 \times 5.33 \times 10^{-23} \text{ g} + 4 \times 2.66 \times 10^{-23} \text{ g}$ = $16.31 \times 10^{-22} \text{ g}$
Mass per dz Baskets	$2 \text{ dz} \times 516 \text{ g/dz} + 1 \text{ dz} \times 852 \text{ g/dz}$ $+ 4 \text{ dz} \times 684 \text{ g/dz} = 4620 \text{ g}$	Mass per Mole of H_2SO_4	$2 \times 1.01 \text{ g/mol} + 1 \times 32.06 \text{ g/mol} + 4 \times 16.00 \text{ g/mol}$ = 98.08 g/mol
Mass of 5 dz Baskets	$5 \text{ dz} \times 4620 \text{ g/dz} = 23100 \text{ g}$	Mass of 5 mol of H_2SO_4	$5 \text{ mol} \times 98.08 \text{ g/mol} = 490.4 \text{ g}$
Mass of 5 dz jumbo eggs	$5 \text{ dz} \times 852 \text{ g/dz} = 4260 \text{ g}$	Mass of 5 mol H atoms	$5 \text{ mol} \times 1.01 \text{ g/mol} = 5.05 \text{ g}$
Mass of 5 dz large eggs	$5 \text{ dz} \times 684 \text{ g/dz} = 3420 \text{ g}$	Mass of 5 mol S atoms	$5 \text{ mol} \times 32.06 \text{ g/mol} = 160.3 \text{ g}$
Mass of 5 dz small eggs	$5 \text{ dz} \times 516 \text{ g/dz} = 2580 \text{ g}$	Mass of 5 mol O atoms	$5 \text{ mol} \times 16.00 \text{ g/mol} = 80.00 \text{ g}$