## **Conservation of Matter in Reactions**

In a chemical reaction the atoms in the reactants must equal the reactants in the products (conservation of matter)

2Na + Cl<sub>2</sub> → 2NaCl

2 Na reacts with 1 Cl<sub>2</sub> to yield 1 NaCl

The **coefficient** (*large number before atoms*) allows the atoms on one side of the reaction to balance with the other side of the reaction.



Balancing Reactions is a very important part of chemical reactions

## **Balancing Chemical Reactions**

Balancing a chemical reaction is the process of making both sides of a reaction (reactants and products) have the same number of atoms (matter is conserved)

 $Na + Cl_2 \rightarrow NaCl$ 

Na reacts with Cl<sub>2</sub> to yield NaCl

2Na + Cl<sub>2</sub> → 2NaCl

2 Na reacts with 1 Cl<sub>2</sub> to yield 1 NaCl

**Unbalanced Reaction** 

Different number of Cl on each side of reaction

**Balanced Reaction** 

Same number of Na and CI on both sides of rxn

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## **Atomic Ratios in Chemical Equations**

The balancing process requires making the number of atoms the same on both sides using atomic ratios.

Ratio	Balance	Ratio	Balance	Ratio	Balance
1/1	Balanced	1/2   2/1	2	2/3   3/2	6
2/2	Balanced	1/3   3/1	3	3/4   4/3	12
3/3	Balanced	1/4   4/1	4	2/4   4/2	4
4/4	Balanced	1/6   6/1	6	2/6   6/2	6
5/5	Balanced	4/6   6/4	12	3/6   6/3	6

## **Balancing Equations Process**

The process for balancing equations follows this procedure:

- 1. Write complete reaction (reactants and products)
- 2. Draw Balancing Chart
- 3. Use ratios to balance 1 atom
- 4. Change other atoms affected by balancing first atom
- 5. Balance additional atoms
- 6. Check overall balance of reaction

**Balancing Chart** 

 $AB + CD \rightarrow AD + CB$ 

A - A

B - B -

) - D -

This chart is required for all reactions that are balanced

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