

The Big Idea of Elements, Compounds, and Mixtures

Elements

- Contain only **one** type of atom
- Cannot be broken down into simpler substances either by **physical** or **chemical** means
- Can exist as either **atoms** or **molecules**

Compounds

- Contain **atoms** of **two** or more different elements bonded together in specific ratio.
- **Can** be broken down into simpler substances (elements) by **chemical** means but **NOT by physical**.
- Has **different** properties than its component **elements**.

Mixtures

- Contain **two** or **more** substances (elements or compounds) that are NOT bonded together.
- Can be separated **physically**.
- Retains many of the same **properties** of its components.