

Finding the Average Atomic Weight for a Newly Discovered Element

Purpose:

To find the average "atomic weight" for the element, **Skittles (Sk)**, and to understand the concept of isotopes.

Materials:

calculator 1 package of Skittles candies

Procedure:

- 1) Complete the data table:
 - a) Enter the different colors (isotopes)
 - b) Count the number of each isotope (TOTAL # ATOMS)
 - c) Calculate the total atomic weight of each isotope. (TOTAL WEIGHT)
 - d) THEN find the *average* atomic weight for your sample of the element Sk. by dividing the total weight by the total # atoms.
 - e) Record your average to two decimal places.

red-12amu (Sk-12)
 green-10amu (Sk-10)
 orange-8amu (Sk-8)
 yellow-7amu (Sk-7)
 purple-9amu (Sk-9)

Data:

color	amu	Number of isotope	total weight of each isotope amu x number of isotope	TOTALS
red	12			
green	10			
orange	8			
yellow	7			
purple	9			
			TOTAL # ATOMS	
			TOTAL WEIGHT	
			AVERAGE WEIGHT	

Conclusion:

Fill in the missing atomic weight in the periodic table cell for element #4 **Sk**

4
Sk
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