## A2 Physical Chemistry

## Calculating the pH of Strong Bases

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## $\mathrm{K}_{\mathrm{w}}$ may be used to calculate the pH of alkalis

$$
\mathrm{K}_{\mathrm{w}}=\quad\left[\mathrm{H}^{+}\right]\left[\mathrm{OH}^{-}\right]
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$1 \times 10^{-14}=\left[\mathrm{H}^{+}\right]\left[\mathrm{OH}^{-}\right]$
This will be known
from the
concentration of the
alkali

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\mathrm{K}_{\mathrm{w}}=\left[\mathrm{H}^{+}\right]\left[\mathrm{OH}^{-}\right] \quad \mathrm{K}_{\mathrm{w}}=1 \times 10^{-14} \text { at } 298 \mathrm{~K}
$$



Then the pH may be calculated using $\mathrm{pH}=-\log \left[\mathrm{H}^{+}\right]$

## Example 1 - pH of $0.200 \mathrm{~mol} \mathrm{dm}^{-3} \mathrm{NaOH}$ ?

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$$
\begin{gathered}
1 \times 10^{-14}=\left[\mathrm{H}^{+}\right](0.200) \\
{\left[\mathrm{H}^{+}\right]=5 \times 10^{-14}}
\end{gathered}
$$

## Example $1-\mathrm{pH}$ of $0.200 \mathrm{~mol} \mathrm{dm}^{-3} \mathrm{NaOH}$ ?

$$
\begin{aligned}
& 1 \times 10^{-14}=\left[\mathrm{H}^{+}\right](0.200) \\
& {\left[\mathrm{H}^{+}\right]=5 \times 10^{-14}} \\
& \mathrm{pH}=-\log \left[\mathrm{H}^{+}\right]
\end{aligned}
$$

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& {\left[\mathrm{H}^{+}\right]=5 \times 10^{-14}} \\
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\end{aligned}
$$

## Example $1-\mathrm{pH}$ of $0.200 \mathrm{~mol} \mathrm{dm}^{-3} \mathrm{NaOH}$ ?

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\begin{aligned}
& 1 \times 10^{-14}=\left[\mathrm{H}^{+}\right](0.200) \\
& {\left[\mathrm{H}^{+}\right]=5 \times 10^{-14}} \\
& \mathrm{pH}=-\log \left(5 \times 10^{-14}\right) \\
& \mathrm{pH}=13.30
\end{aligned}
$$

Example 2 - pH of $0.0500 \mathrm{~mol} \mathrm{dm}^{-3} \mathrm{Sr}(\mathrm{OH})_{2}$

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## Example 2 - pH of $0.0500 \mathrm{~mol} \mathrm{dm}^{-3} \mathrm{Sr}(\mathrm{OH})_{2}$

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\left[\mathrm{H}^{+}\right]=1.00 \times 10^{-13}
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& 1 \times 10^{-14}=\left[\mathrm{H}^{+}\right](0.100) \\
& {\left[\mathrm{H}^{+}\right]=1.00 \times 10^{-13}} \\
& \mathrm{pH}=-\log \left(1 \times 10^{-13}\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\left[\mathrm{OH}^{-}\right]=2 \times 0.0500=0.100 \mathrm{~mol} \mathrm{dm}^{-3}
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& 1 \times 10^{-14}=\left[\mathrm{H}^{+}\right](0.100) \\
& {\left[\mathrm{H}^{+}\right]=1.00 \times 10^{-13}} \\
& \mathrm{pH}=-\log \left(1 \times 10^{-13}\right) \\
& \mathrm{pH}=13.00
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\left[\mathrm{OH}^{-}\right]=2 \times 0.0500=0.100 \mathrm{~mol} \mathrm{dm}^{-3}
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Example 3 - Calculate the pH of the solution formed when $50 \mathrm{~cm}^{3}$ of water is added to $100 \mathrm{~cm}^{3}$ of $0.200 \mathrm{~mol} \mathrm{dm}^{-3} \mathrm{NaOH}$.

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Diluted $\left[\mathrm{OH}^{-}\right]=0.200 \times$ original vol
diluted vol

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Diluted $\left[\mathrm{OH}^{-}\right]=0.200 \times \frac{100}{150}$

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Diluted $\left[\mathrm{OH}^{-}\right]=0.200 \times \frac{100}{150}$
Diluted $\left[\mathrm{OH}^{-}\right]=0.133$

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1 \times 10^{-14}=\left[\mathrm{H}^{+}\right](0.133)
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$$
\begin{aligned}
& 1 \times 10^{-14}=\left[\mathrm{H}^{+}\right](0.133) \\
& {\left[\mathrm{H}^{+}\right]=7.50 \times 10^{-14}}
\end{aligned}
$$

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\begin{aligned}
& 1 \times 10^{-14}=\left[\mathrm{H}^{+}\right](0.133) \\
& {\left[\mathrm{H}^{+}\right]=7.50 \times 10^{-14}} \\
& \mathrm{pH}=-\log \left(7.50 \times 10^{-14}\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

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Diluted $\left[\mathrm{OH}^{-}\right]=0.200 \times \frac{100}{150}$
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$$
\begin{aligned}
& 1 \times 10^{-14}=\left[\mathrm{H}^{+}\right](0.133) \\
& {\left[\mathrm{H}^{+}\right]=7.50 \times 10^{-14}} \\
& \mathrm{pH}=13.12
\end{aligned}
$$

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