

Percent Composition

Law of definite proportions: elements in a compound have fixed proportions by mass (Joseph Proust)

Different mass percents of elements give you unique chemical compounds.

Ex CO 42.88% C
CO₂ 27.29% C

Percent composition: List of mass percents of each element in a compound

Ex. The % composition of C₈H₈O₃ is 63.1% C, 5.3% H and 31.6 % O.

Calculating % composition

Ex 1. A 38.72 g sample contains 22.69 g of Mg and 16.03 g of S. Find the % composition.

Ex 2. What is the % composition of FeBr₂?