

This “Pairs & Squares” colored rendering of the Periodic Table seems most intuitive in view of quadratic number of orbitals at each atomic energy level.				5 B 10.81 Boron		7 N 14.007 Nitrogen		13 Al 26.982 Aluminium		15 P 30.974 Phosphorus	
3 Li 6.94 Lithium		1 H 1.008 Hydrogen		6 C 12.011 Carbon		8 O 15.999 Oxygen		14 Si 28.085 Silicon		16 S 32.06 Sulfur	
4 Be 9.012 Beryllium		2 He 4.003 Helium		11 Na 22.990 Sodium		9 F 18.998 Fluorine		19 K 39.098 Potassium		17 Cl 35.45 Chlorine	
staple here				12 Mg 24.31 Magnesium		10 Ne 20.180 Neon		20 Ca 40.078 Calcium		18 Ar 39.948 Argon	
				staple here				staple here			
21 Sc 44.956 Scandium		23 V 50.942 Vanadium		25 Mn 54.94 Manganese		39 Y 88.906 Yttrium		41 Nb 92.906 Niobium		43 Tc 96.91 Technetium	
22 Ti 47.867 Titanium		24 Cr 51.996 Chromium		26 Fe 55.845 Iron		40 Zr 91.224 Zirconium		42 Mo 95.95 Molybdenum		44 Ru 101.07 Ruthenium	
31 Ga 69.723 Gallium		33 As 74.922 Arsenic		27 Co 58.933 Cobalt		49 In 114.82 Indium		51 Sb 121.76 Antimony		45 Rh 102.91 Rhodium	
32 Ge 72.630 Germanium		34 Se 78.971 Selenium		28 Ni 58.693 Nickel		50 Sn 118.71 Tin		52 Te 127.60 Tellurium		46 Pd 106.42 Palladium	
37 Rb.468 Rubidium		35 Br 79.904 Bromine		29 Cu 63.546 Copper		55 Cs 132.91 Caesium		53 I 126.90 Iodine		47 Ag 107.87 Silver	
38 Sr 87.62 Strontium		36 Kr 83.798 Krypton		30 Zn 65.38 Zinc		56 Ba 137.33 Barium		54 Xe 131.29 Xenon		48 Cd 112.41 Cadmium	
staple here						staple here					
57 La 138.91 Lanthanum		59 Pr 140.91 Praseodymium		61 Pm 144.9 Promethium		89 Ac 227 Actinium		91 Pa 231 Protactinium		93 Np 237 Neptunium	
58 Ce 140.12 Cerium		60 Nd 144.24 Neodymium		62 Sm 150.4 Samarium		90 Th 232 Thorium		92 U 238 Uranium		94 Pu 244 Plutonium	
71 Lu 174.97 Lutetium		73 Ta 180.95 Tantalum		75 Re 186.21 Rhenium		103 Lr 262 Lawrencium		105 Db 270 Dubnium		107 Bh 270 Bohrium	
72 Hf 178.49 Hafnium		74 W 183.84 Tungsten		76 Os 190.23 Osmium		104 Rf 267 Rutherfordium		106 Sg 269 Seaborgium		108 Hs 269 Hassium	
81 Tl 204.38 Thallium		83 Bi 208.98 Bismuth		77 Ir 192.22 Iridium		113 Nh 286 Nihonium		115 Mc 289 Moscovium		109 Mt 278 Meitnerium	
82 Pb 207.2 Lead		84 Po 208.98 Polonium		78 Pt 195.08 Platinum		114 Fl 289 Flerovium		116 Lv 293 Livermorium		110 Ds 281 Darmstadtium	
87 Fr 223.02 Francium		85 At 209.99 Astatine		79 Au 196.97 Gold		119 Uue ? Ununennium		117 Ts 293 Tennessine		111 Rg 281 Roentgenium	
88 Ra 226.03 Radium		86 Rn 222.02 Radon		80 Hg 200.59 Mercury		120 Ubn ? Unbinilium		118 Og 294 Oganesson		112 Cn 285 Copernicium	
staple here						staple here					

Periodic Table.

“Pairs and Squares” Periodic Table

Leonid A. Levin

<https://www.cs.bu.edu/fac/Lnd>

Boston University*

Abstract

I present a new “Pairs and Squares” rendering of the Periodic Table.

It takes advantage of the number of orbitals at each atomic energy level being a whole square.

This makes the table very regular and intuitive in contrast with its currently used presentations.

In a century and a half since [1], a huge number of forms of the Periodic Table have been designed (see, e.g., [2]). However, they all share a problem: Their irregularity overwhelms their periodicity. This is especially bothersome at one’s early exposures to this icon of science.

Yet, there is one great numeric pattern that none of these renditions of the table seem to exploit for a full effect. The number of orbitals in each electron shell is a whole square. And so is the number of orbitals at each energy level (that by Madelung rule is roughly the sum of the first two quantum numbers). And those squares are each the sum of the first several odd integers, representing the numbers of orbitals on the respective sub-shells. (These sub-shells at each energy level reflect the traditional grouping of elements indicated by colors in most representations of the Periodic Table.)

This pattern allows a completely regular rendering of the table with a very intuitive look. Each period fills a square, with each cell of the square holding a pair of consecutive elements. Squares are composed of colored 7-shaped stripes representing elements of each type. If squares are stapled together, similar elements fall at the same place in the respective layers. If all periods are placed on one page, the pattern of similar elements is quite apparent, too.

Of course one may question the need to add one more form of the Periodic Table to the huge number of those already designed. But I think one look at this Table (see the next page, in color) may convince that the extra comfort given by its perfect¹ regularity comes as some justification.

References

- [1] D. I. Mendeleev. 1871. The natural system of elements and its application to the indication of the properties of undiscovered elements. *J. Russian Chemical Soc.* **3**:25–56. (in Russian.)
- [2] Mark R. Leach. 1999-. *The Internet Database of Periodic Tables*.
https://www.meta-synthesis.com/webbook/35_pt/pt_database.php
- [3] N. N. Semenov. 1969. *100 лет периодического закона химических элементов. 1869-1969. = 100 years of the periodic law of chemical elements. 1869-1969*. Nauka, Moscow. (In Russian.)

*College of Arts and Sciences, CS, 665 Commonwealth Ave., Boston, MA 02215.

¹Admittedly, a really perfect pattern would start with two pink 1-cell periods.

However the H/He period is special, suggesting a yellow color.

So, the small imperfection of merging the two into one 2-cell yellow/pink period seems more revealing.