



Matter has mass and takes up space.
Atoms are basic building blocks of matter, and cannot be chemically subdivided by ordinary means.
The word atom is derived from the Greek word atom which means indivisible.
The Greeks concluded that matter could be broken down into particles too small to be seen.
These particles were called atoms

ATOMS:
The smallest piece of an element which still has the properties of that element is called an atom.
Central core is called a NUCLEUS, and has a + charge.
It is surrounded by an Electron Cloud which has a - charge.
These 2 parts balance each other out so that the atom is electrically neutral(or has NO electric charge)

Atoms are composed of three types of particles:
 protons, neutrons, and electrons.
 Protons and neutrons are responsible for most of the atomic mass
 (example: in a 150 person 149.99 lbs, are protons and neutrons while only .001 oz. is electrons.)
 (please note scientist have discovered they are actually made up of MORE than 3 parts: Protons, neutrons, and electrons)

In reality the mass of an electron is almost negligible:
9.108 X 10⁻²⁸ grams.
That's why we basically refer to the mass of an electron as zero amu.





































