Lesson #4: Naming & Formulas of Covalent Compounds
When naming Covalent Compounds follow these IUPAC rules:

1. The non-metal closest to the left of the periodic table goes first and keeps its name

2. The second non-metal element is named with the suffix “-ide”

3. “Descriptive Prefixes” are added to the beginnings of the names of both elements. These prefixes are necessary because often 2 non-metals can combine in different ways
Naming Diatomic Molecules

- Diatomic Molecules are Covalent Compounds BUT naming these molecules involves slightly different IUPAC rules:

  1. Write the prefix Di at the beginning of the elements name
  2. DO NOT change the ending of the elements name

(ex) Cl₂ is named Dichlorine
Writing Formulas for Covalent Compounds

• When writing formulas for Covalent Compounds, follow these IUPAC rules:
  1. Write the symbol to the left most element first
  2. Write the symbol to the other element second
  3. The Descriptive Prefix will tell you how many of each atom is present in the molecule
  4. If there is no prefix, assume that this means that there are only ONE of the atoms in the molecule
  5. I don’t know, write something here...