How Atoms Become Ions

**Ion:** An atom that has gained or lost electrons

***Metals:*** loose electrons; form positive ions eg. Li+1

***Non-metals:*** gain electrons; form negative ions eg. N-3

***For example -*** Magnesium

***Atom*** ***Ion***

Symbol= Mg Symbol= Mg+2

Mass=24 Mass= 24

p+=12 p+=12

n =12 n = 12

e- = 12 e- = 10 (2 e- lost)

*Try Calcium*

Atom Ion

Symbol= Symbol=

Mass = Mass =

p = p =

n = n =

e = e =

*Try Fluorine*

Atom Ion

Symbol= Symbol=

Mass = Mass =

p = p =

n = n =

e = e =