

Writing Formulas For Binary Ionic Compounds:

Known as the **5 Step Drop and Swap Method**
to Balance the Charges

Example: Calcium Phosphide

1. Write the 2 symbols
2. Write the charges
3. Cross over the charges from top to bottom
4. Remove the charge signs (now they are balanced they are not needed)
5. Simplify the the numbers and remove any 1's

1. Ca P
2. Ca⁺² P⁻³
3. Ca⁺² P⁻³
4. Ca⁺² P⁻³
5. 3 & 2 can't be simplified



The small numbers are called subscripts.
They indicate the # of atoms on the formula.



Nomenclature of Binary Ionic Compounds

- * It's named first by its cation and then by its anion.
- * The cation has the same exact name as its element.
- * The anion is named by taking the elemental name and taking away the ending and putting in "ide".