

SNo	Z(atomic no.)	Symbol	Name	Etymology	Selected applications
1	21	Sc	Scandium	from Latin Scandia (Scandinavia).	Light aluminium-scandium alloys for aerospace components, additive in metal-halide lamps and mercury-vapor lamps, radioactive tracing agent in oil refineries
2	39	Y	Yttrium	after the village of Ytterby, Sweden, where the first rare earth ore was discovered.	Yttrium aluminium garnet (YAG) laser, yttrium vanadate (YVO ₄) as host for europium in TV red phosphor, YBCO high-temperature superconductors, yttria-stabilized zirconia (YSZ), yttrium iron garnet (YIG) microwave filters, energy-efficient light bulbs, spark plugs, gas mantles, additive to steel
3	57	La	Lanthanum	from the Greek "lanthanein", meaning to be hidden.	High refractive index and alkali-resistant glass, flint, hydrogen storage, battery-electrodes, camera lenses, fluid catalytic cracking catalyst for oil refineries
4	58	Ce	Cerium	after the dwarf planet Ceres, named after the Roman goddess of agriculture.	Chemical oxidizing agent, polishing powder, yellow colors in glass and ceramics, catalyst for self-cleaning ovens, fluid catalytic cracking catalyst for oil refineries, ferrocium flints for lighters
5	59	Pr	Praseodymium	from the Greek "prasios", meaning leek-green, and "didymos", meaning twin.	Rare-earth magnets, lasers, core material for carbon arc lighting, colorant in glasses and enamels, additive in didymium glass used in welding goggles, ferrocium firesteel (flint) products.
6	60	Nd	Neodymium	from the Greek "neos", meaning new, and "didymos", meaning twin.	Rare-earth magnets, lasers, violet colors in glass and ceramics, didymium glass, ceramic capacitors
7	61	Pm	Promethium	after the Titan Prometheus, who brought fire to mortals.	Nuclear batteries
8	62	Sm	Samarium	after mine official, Vasili Samarsky-Bykhovets.	Rare-earth magnets, lasers, neutron capture, masers
9	63	Eu	Europium	after the continent of Europe.	Red and blue phosphors, lasers, mercury-vapor lamps, fluorescent lamps, NMR relaxation agent
10	64	Gd	Gadolinium	after Johan Gadolin (1760–1852), to honor his investigation of rare earths.	Rare-earth magnets, high refractive index glass or garnets, lasers, X-ray tubes, computer memories, neutron capture, MRI contrast agent, NMR relaxation agent, magnetostrictive alloys such as Galfenol, steel additive
				after the village	

11	65	Tb	Terbium	of Ytterby, Sweden.	Green phosphors, lasers, fluorescent lamps, magnetostrictive alloys such as Terfenol-D
12	66	Dy	Dysprosium	from the Greek "dysprositos", meaning hard to get.	Rare-earth magnets, lasers, magnetostrictive alloys such as Terfenol-D
13	67	Ho	Holmium	after Stockholm (in Latin, "Holmia"), native city of one of its discoverers.	Lasers, wavelength calibration standards for optical spectrophotometers, magnets
14	68	Er	Erbium	after the village of Ytterby, Sweden.	Infrared lasers, vanadium steel, fiber-optic technology
15	69	Tm	Thulium	after the mythological northern land of Thule.	Portable X-ray machines, metal-halide lamps, lasers
16	70	Yb	Ytterbium	after the village of Ytterby, Sweden.	Infrared lasers, chemical reducing agent, decoy flares, stainless steel, stress gauges, nuclear medicine
17	71	Lu	Lutetium	after Lutetia, the city which later became Paris.	Positron emission tomography – PET scan detectors, high refractive index glass, lutetium tantalate hosts for phosphors

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