Solubility Rules & Activity Series

Ms. Chubbuck

Solubility Rules

Compounds containing the following ions are generally soluble in water:

- 1. alkali metal ions and ammonium ions, Li⁺, Na⁺, K⁺, NH₄⁺
- 2. acetate ion, $C_2H_3O_2^-$ (CH₃COO⁻)
- 3. nitrate ion, NO_3^-
- 4. halide ions (X⁻), Cl⁻, Br⁻, I⁻ (AgX, Hg₂X₂, PbX₂ are insoluble exceptions)
- 5. sulfate ions, SO_4^{2-} , (BaSO₄, SrSO₄, and PbSO₄ are insoluble exceptions)

Compounds containing the following ions are generally *insoluble* in water:

- 6. carbonate ions, CO₃²⁻ (see rule 1 exceptions, which are soluble)
- 7. chromate ions, CrO₄²⁻ (see rule 1 exceptions, which are soluble)
- 8. phosphate ions, PO₄³⁻ (see rule 1 exceptions, which are soluble)
- 9. sulfide ions, S²⁻ (CaS, SrS, BaS, and rule 1 exceptions are soluble)
- 10. hydroxide ions, OH⁻ [Ca(OH)₂, Sr(OH)₂, Ba(OH)₂, and rule 1 exceptions are soluble]

Activity Series

Li > K > Ba > Sr > Ca > Na > Mg > Al > Mn > Zn > Fe > Cd > Co > Ni > Sn > Pb > H > Cu > Ag > Hg > Au