

Common Sources of Anions

NO_3^- (Nitrate)	gunpowder, matches, fertilizer
$\text{C}_2\text{H}_3\text{O}_2^-$ (Acetate)	vinegar, buffers, photography, tanning
Cl^- (Chloride)	table salt, seawater, photography, food preservative
Br^- (Bromide)	seawater, sedatives, photography, some fire extinguishers
I^- (Iodide)	iodized table salt, tincture of iodine (I_2/NaI mix)
SCN^- (Thiocyanate)	colorimetric iron test reagents, photography
S^{2-} (Sulfide)	ores, eg. pyrite, FeS (fool's gold), PbS (galena), egg yolks
SO_4^{2-} (Sulfate)	MgSO_4 (Epsom Salts), fertilizer, wallboard, plaster, cement
CO_3^{2-} (Carbonate)	CaCO_3 (limestone), Na_2CO_3 (washing soda), antacids, pigments
CrO_4^{2-} (Chromate)	anti-rust paints, artist pigments, chrome plating solutions
PO_4^{3-} (Phosphate)	fertilizer, water softening, baking powder, buffers, bones
AsO_4^{3-} (Arsenate)	rat poison, insecticide, tanning, some Pb ores
AsO_3^{3-} (Arsenite)	rat poison, insecticide, manufacture of mirrors, some Pb ores
F^- (Fluoride)	insecticide, fluxes, enameling, fluoridation of water, toothpaste
CN^- (Cyanide)	gold & silver ore extraction, electroplating, poisons
NO_2^- (Nitrite)	dye manufacture, meat preservative, corrosion inhibitors
HCO_3^- (Bicarbonate)	NaHCO_3 (Baking Soda), groundwater
SO_3^{2-} (Sulfite)	wine preservative, photographic developers, bleaching
BO_3^{3-} (Borate)	eyewash, tanning, wood preservative, fire retardant, flux
PO_3^{3-} (Phosphite)	fertilizer

F^- , Cl^- , Br^- , and I^- ions are called halides or halide ions. F_2 , Cl_2 , Br_2 , I_2 as elements, are called halogens.

SCN^- , thiocyanate ion, is called a pseudohalide, because its chemistry mimics the halides.