Element of the Day – Iron

Symbol Fe

Origin of name and symbol: Latin Ferrum meaning “grey”

Uses of iron:

Many products containing steel such as cars, tools, appliances, chains and cooking utensils

Used in buildings, bridges and towers

Used in magnets

Element of the Day – lead

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| |  |  | | --- | --- | | Symbol Pb  Origin of name and symbol: Latin word for waterworks **plumbum** |  |   Uses of lead:   * a shield against X-ray and gamma-ray radiation and is used in X-ray machines and nuclear reactors. * the production of lead-acid storage batteries found in automobiles. * Solder, an alloy that is nearly half lead and half [tin](http://education.jlab.org/itselemental/ele050.html), used to join electrical components, pipes and other metallic items.  |  | | --- | | Element of the Day – Potassium  Symbol K  Origin of name and symbol: from the English word "*potash*" (pot ashes) and the Arabic word "*qali*" meaning alkali. The origin of the symbol K comes from the Latin word "*kalium*". | |  |  |   Uses of potassium:   * the alloy of potassium with sodium (NaK) is used as a heat-transfer medium in nuclear reactors. * Used in fertilizers * potassium nitrate, KNO3, and potassium chlorate, KClO3, are used in fireworks * Bananas and potatoes are good sources of potassium. * potassium is lost from the body in sweat and urine |