

PHYSICAL vs. CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

PHYSICAL property – a characteristic of matter that can be observed or measured without changing the samples composition. For example, color, taste, hardness, melting point, and density.

CHEMICAL property –a characteristic of matter that can be observed when a substance reacts with something else. As a result, the original substance changes into one or more new substances. For example, the ability of iron to rust is a chemical property. The iron reacts with oxygen, and the original iron metal is changed. It now exists as iron oxide (rust), a different substance.

Classify the following properties as either chemical or physical by putting a check in the appropriate column.

	Physical Property	Chemical Property
1. blue color		
2. density		
3. flammability		
4. solubility		
5. reacts with acid to form H ₂		
6. supports combustion		
7. sour taste		
8. melting point		
9. reacts with water to form a gas		
10. reacts with a base to form water		
11. hardness		
12. boiling point		
13. can neutralize a base		
14. luster		
15. odor		