

24-1 Practice Problems

1. The half-life of cesium-137 is 30.2 years. If the initial mass of a sample of cesium-137 is 1.00 kg, how much will remain after 151 years?
2. Given that the half-life of carbon-14 is 5730 years, consider a sample of fossilized wood that, when alive, would have contained 24 g of carbon-14. It now contains 1.5 g of carbon-14. How old is the sample?
3. A 64-g sample of germanium-66 is left undisturbed for 12.5 hours. At the end of that period, only 2.0 g remain. What is the half-life of this material?
4. With a half-life of 28.8 years, how long will it take for 1 g of strontium-90 to decay to 125 mg?
5. Cobalt-60 has a half-life of 5.3 years. If a pellet that has been in storage for 26.5 years contains 14.5 g of cobalt-60, how much of this radioisotope was present when the pellet was put into storage?
6. A 1.000-kg block of phosphorus-32, which has a half-life of 14.3 days, is stored for 100.1 days. At the end of this period, how much phosphorus-32 remains?
7. A sample of air from a basement is collected to test for the presence of radon-222, which has a half-life of 3.8 days. However, delays prevent the sample from being tested until 7.6 days have passed. Measurements indicate the presence of 6.5 μg of radon-222. How much radon-222 was present in the sample when it was initially collected?
8. A 0.500 M solution of iodine-131, which has a half-life of 8.0 days, is prepared. After 40. days, how much iodine will remain in 1.0 L of solution? Express the result in moles. } Bonus
9. The half-life of sodium-25 is 1.0 minute. Starting with 1 kg of this isotope, how much will remain after half an hour?
10. What is the half-life of polonium-214 if, after 820. seconds, a 1.0-g sample decays to 31.25 mg?