

Fri, Oct 4

Molecular Compounds

- A compound is when atoms of more than one element chemically bond together
- Properties of a compound are influenced by the atoms and the type of bonding
- Some compounds exist as molecules - discrete groups of atoms joined by covalent bonds, simple molecular structures
- E.g. Water. Oxygen covalently bonded to two atoms of Hydrogen

Why do water molecules have a low melting point

- The covalent bonds in water molecules are strong forces of attraction
- However, there are also weak forces of attraction called intermolecular forces
- These hold water molecules together and must be overcome when turning water into steam
- Molecules like water often have low m.p and b.p because it doesn't take much energy to overcome the weak intermolecular forces

Explain why water is a poor conductor of electricity

- An electric current is a flow of charge
- Simple molecules have no overall charge and so cannot carry electric current
- The electrons cannot flow and so cannot carry a current