**Notes – Properties of Ionic Compounds**

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| What is the structure of an ionic compound?What is a crystal lattice?What is the unit cell?What are the different types of unit cells?Example – NaClOther properties:Are ionic compounds brittle or malleable?Melting PointSoluble in WaterConduct Electricity | Ionic compounds form crystalline solids of repeating patterns of positive ions (cations) and negative ions (anions.)Crystal NaCl.gifCrystal lattice is the repeating pattern of cations to anions that forms the solid.The smallest part of the crystal lattice that shows the repeating pattern is called the unit cell. The crystal grows unit cell by unit cell.crystal unit cell.jpgThere are 7 basic types of unit cells in crystals:crystal shapes.jpgSodium Chloride (table salt) is a cube crystalSodium Borate (Borax) is a Monoclinic crystalIonic compounds are brittle. They break (or shatter) along the lines of the ionic bonds.Crystal brittle.pngIonic compounds have high melting points (high temperature is needed to make an ionic compound become a liquid)Example: Sodium Chloride melts at 1,474°F (801°C).This indicates the electrostatic bonds ( + - ) are very strong.ionic compound in water.jpgMany ionic compounds are soluble (dissolve ) in water. The solid breaks into free ions that move between the water molecules.Ionic Compound Conduct Electricity.pngCrystalline solids - NoMolten (liquid) – YesDissolved in water – Yes |