

Balancing Equations – Tips

- Remember your lessons on ionic, polyatomic & molecular compounds
- Look for HOFBrINCl molecules. ie: O_2
- Metals have no subscripts ie: Fe
- Balance by changing the coefficients only.
- Create a chart to check.
- Reduce coefficients if possible.

Example of a chart to check

	elements	reactants	products
Hydrogens are balanced!	H	4	4
Oxygens are NOT balanced	O	2	1

The diagram shows two text boxes on the left. The top box, 'Hydrogens are balanced!', has an arrow pointing to the 'H' row in the table. The bottom box, 'Oxygens are NOT balanced', has an arrow pointing to the 'O' row in the table.