

## Polyatomic Ions

Poly means "many". Polyatomic means "many atoms". Polyatomic ions contain two or more different atoms. The atoms stay together as a single, charged unit.

Endings to look for: "ate", "ite"

nitrate  $\text{NO}_3^-$

nitrite  $\text{NO}_2^-$

chlorate  $\text{ClO}_3^-$

chlorite  $\text{ClO}_2^-$

sulfate  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$

sulfite  $\text{SO}_3^{2-}$

acetate  $\text{CH}_3\text{COO}^-$  or  $\text{CH}_3\text{CO}_2^-$  or  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_3\text{O}_2^-$

hydrogen carbonate or bicarbonate  $\text{HCO}_3^-$

Note: hydroxide  $\text{OH}^-$   
cyanide  $\text{CN}^-$

peroxide  $\text{O}_2^{2-}$

Note: ammonium  $\text{NH}_4^+$

See your periodic tables for more examples.

## Polyatomic Ion Bingo