

## <sup>44</sup>K

Cohen from Oak Ridge National Laboratory identified <sup>44</sup>K in the 1954 paper “Potassium-44” ([1954Co70](#)). Natural calcium and enriched <sup>44</sup>Ca was irradiated with neutrons which were produced by bombarding beryllium with 22 MeV protons. Gamma- and beta-ray spectra were measured following chemical separation. “Potassium-44 was produced by an (n,p) reaction on calcium and found to decay by negatron and gamma emission with a  $22.0\pm 0.5$  minute half-life. The identification was ascertained by comparison of yields from normal and isotopically enriched calcium, cross section measurements, chemical processing, and investigation of impurity effects.” Previously, Walke had assigned a half-life of 18(1) min to either <sup>43</sup>K or <sup>44</sup>K ([1937Wa04](#)).

Adapted from reference ([2012Th10](#))

- [1937Wa04](#) H. Walke, Phys. Rev. **51**, 439 (1937).  
[1954Co70](#) B. L. Cohen, Phys. Rev. **94**, 117 (1954).  
[2012Th10](#) M. Thoennessen, At. Data Nucl. Data Tables **98**, 933 (2012).

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