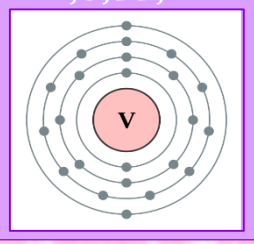
Council of the 118 Elements

The Valentine's Element ~ Vanadium

Name	Vanadium
Atomic No.	23
Atomic Weight	50.9415
Origin of the Name	Vanadís — the Scandinavian goddess of love

Melting Point	1910 °C
Boiling Point	3407 °C
Density	6.1 g/cm³
Abundance	120 mg/kg
Category	Metal

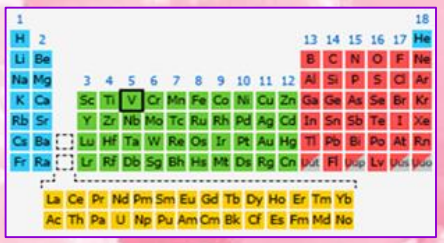
Electronic Arrangement
2,8,11,2



Discovery of the Valentine's Element

Discoverer : Andrés M. del Río
Nils G. Sefström
Year of Discovery : 1801

Vanadium was discovered by Andrés Manuel del Río, a Spanish-Mexican mineralogist, in 1801. He extracted the element from a sample of Mexican "brown lead" ore, later named vanadinite. In 1831, the Swedish chemist Nils Gabriel Sefström rediscovered the element in a new oxide he found while working with iron ores.



Seating plan of the Council
[The Periodic Table]

Seat of Vanadium

Period 4
Group 5
Transition Metal

A Poem for Vanadium ~

The broad group of transition metals
is seated at the centre of the Council Hall.
Always outshone by the more famous members,
Vanadium stayed humble and seemingly small.

The big names of the transition metals
namely Gold, Silver, Copper, Platinum,
whom everyone in the world knows.
But what 'bout shy, little Vanadium?

In her elemental form,
there's nothing much Vanadium can do,
except forming alloys with titanium and steel,
contribute to the making of high-speed tools.

There's one special trait of Vanadium
is that she can form 4 adjacent oxidation states.
With 5 valence electrons that can be lost,
she is going to have a multicoloured fate.

Vanadium can form metal aquo complexes
of lilac, green, blue and yellow
Vanadium(II) compounds are reducing agents, but
Vanadium(V) compounds are the oxidizing fellows.

The compounds of Vanadium
are used extensively as catalysts.
For example, Vanadium pentoxide,
as a catalyst in manufacturing sulphuric acid

With a name derived from Vanadís,
the Scandinavian goddess of love.
Vanadium is the element for February,
the month of Valentine's Day, season full of love