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Elements Christened

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Nearly a year after they joined the periodic table, two man-made elements have been officially named.

What used to be element 114 is now flerovium, honoring the Flerov Laboratory of Nuclear Reactions in the Moscow region town of Dubna, where it was created. Element 116 is now livermorium, for the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in Livermore, California, home of a scientific team that participated in its creation in Dubna. The chemical symbols are Fl and Lv.

You won't find these materials lying around. Once made, these atoms decay within seconds.

Both names had been proposed last year by the scientists, who made the elements by smashing atoms together.

(AP)

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