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formula /for-mu-'la/ (for' mu-lah) pl. *formulas, for'mulae* [L.] an expression, using numbers or symbols, of the composition of, or of directions for preparing, a compound, such as a medicine, or of a procedure to follow to obtain a desired result, or of a single concept.

chemical formula a combination of symbols used to express the chemical composition of a substance.

dental formula an expression in symbols of the number and arrangement of teeth in the jaws. Letters represent the various types of teeth: I, *incisor*; C, *canine*; P, *premolar*; M, *molar*. Each letter is followed by a horizontal line. Numbers above the line represent maxillary teeth; those below, mandibular teeth. The human dental formula is I2C11M22= 10 (one side only) for deciduous teeth, and I2C11P22M33= 16 (one side only) for permanent teeth.

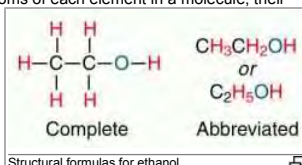
empirical formula a chemical formula which expresses the proportions of the elements present in a substance.

molecular formula a chemical formula expressing the number of atoms of each element present in a molecule of a substance, without indicating how they are linked.

spatial formula, **stereochemical formula** a chemical formula giving the number of atoms of each element present in a molecule of a substance, which atom is linked to which, the type of linkages involved, and the relative positions of the atoms in space.

structural formula a chemical formula showing the number of atoms of each element in a molecule, their spatial arrangement, and their linkage to each other.

vertebral formula an expression of the number of vertebrae in each region of the spinal column; the human vertebral formula is C7 T12 L5 S5 Cd4 = 33.



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dental formula

n.

Tabular representation of the number of deciduous and permanent teeth in the jaw.

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dental

pertaining to the [teeth](#).

dental abscess

see [alveolar abscess](#), [malar](#) abscess.

dental aging

telling the age of an animal by its teeth. Significant especially in horses, cattle and sheep. See also [age](#) determination.

dental arcade

the complete array of teeth in the form of an arch. There is an upper and a lower arcade, except in ruminants where the incisor sector of the upper arcade is absent.

dental attrition

occlusal wear of a tooth, as a result of tooth to tooth contact as in mastication; physiological rather than pathological.

dental bud

the dental laminae, focal thickenings of the oral mucosae of the developing embryo, invaginate to form dental buds, the early stage of the enamel organ of the embryonic teeth.

dental caps

a condensation of the oral epithelium of the embryo's dental lamina establishes the cap stage of the developing tooth.

dental chisel

see dental hoe (below).

dental claw

an instrument used often for scaling teeth in dogs and cats. It has a thick, sickle-shaped end.

dental cyst

may be odontogenic, containing cell rests of dental tissue, or dentigerous, in which all or part of a tooth is in the cyst. Causes a local swelling of the jaw which may be visible externally. Called also dentigerous cyst.

dental discoloration

occurs as a result of medication with tetracyclines when the teeth are still in the development stage, in cases of porphyrinuria, and in small discrete lesions in association with fluorosis, again when the poisoning occurred in the pre-eruption stage. Congenital absence of dentine and enamel, as occurs in calves, causes the teeth to look pink because of their vascularity.

dental fistula

caused by the spread of alveolar periostitis or abscess. The fistula discharges from the tooth root to the side of the face below the eye, the maxillary sinus or the nasal cavity. Called also [malar](#) abscess, gum boil.

dental fluorosis

see [fluorosis](#).

dental formula

an alphanumeric system for listing the number, type (I = incisor, C = canine, P = premolar, M = molar), and position (upper or lower) of teeth: ox and sheep 2(I⁰4)0⁰4(I⁰3³)3³; horse 2(I³3)3³1¹1¹(P³4)3³=42; pig 2(I³3)3³1¹1¹(P⁴4)3³=44; dog 2(I³3)3³1¹1¹(P⁴4)3³=42; cat 2(I³3)3³1¹1¹(P²3)3³1¹=30\$\$.

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250 Million Infected in U.S.



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dental fracture/fissure

usually the result of traumatic injury. Causes great discomfort, unwillingness to close the jaw or chew; often the mouth sags open and saliva is allowed to drool.

dental hoe

an instrument commonly used in veterinary dentistry. It has a broad end with a beveled edge. Called also dental chisel.

dental impaction

failure of teeth to erupt out of the alveolar bone or through the gum.

dental interlock

the deciduous upper canine teeth erupt rostral to the lower canine teeth, thereby locking the mandible from further forward growth.

dental irregular wear

see [wave mouth](#).

dental lamina

in the embryonic oral mucosa dental lamina form as local thickenings of the epithelium; they invaginate to form dental buds, later the enamel organ. See also [dental bud](#).

dental luxation

includes loosening of teeth through to complete avulsion.

dental malocclusion

see [malocclusion](#).

dental mirror

a small round mirror set at an angle on one end of a handle, used in dental examinations to reflect images from intraoral surfaces.

dental numbering systems

see [palmer's dental notation](#), [fédération dentaire internationale system](#), [triadan system](#).

dental occlusion

see [occlusion](#) (2).

dental pad

the thick layer of connective tissue that replaces the upper incisor teeth in the ruminant; a rostral projection of the hard palate.

dental papillary mesenchyme

the tissue which converts the dental cap stage of the growing tooth to the bell stage by covering it with enamel.

dental pellicle

a thin, acellular membrane of salivary proteins adsorbed to the enamel or cementum.

dental plaque

a dense mass of bacteria in an intercellular matrix, adhering to the surface of the tooth. It is important in that it initiates caries and periodontitis. A precursor of calculus. See also bacterial [plaque](#).

dental pulp

the sensitive content of the cavity of the tooth carrying its nerve and blood supply.

dental records

contain the history of dental treatment given, generally recorded on diagrams or charts of the mouth, showing position of individual teeth, gingiva and occlusion.

dental resorption

may occur if the tooth pulp is traumatized, by osteoclastic action inside the tooth or outside, in the alveolar bone.

dental sac

the remains of the dental follicle at the apex of immature teeth.

dental star

the mark on the occlusal surface of a tooth, especially horse incisors, which is caused by the appearance of secondary dentine, contributed by the pulp cavity, as the tooth wears.

dental tartar

see dental calculus (above).



Dental star. By permission from Sack W, WensingCJG, Dyce KM, Textbook of Veterinary Anatomy, Saunders, 2002

formula

pl. *formulae, formulas* [L.] an expression, using numbers or symbols, of the composition of, or of directions for preparing, a compound, such as a medicine, or of a procedure to follow to obtain a desired result, or of a single concept.

chemical formula

a combination of symbols used to express the chemical components of a substance.

dental formula

see [dental](#) formula.

empirical formula

a chemical formula that expresses the proportions of the elements present in a substance.

gait formula

sets out the times that the feet are individually in contact with the ground while the animal is moving.

molecular formula

a chemical formula expressing the number of atoms of each element present in a substance, without indicating how they are linked.

spatial formula, stereochemical formula

a chemical formula giving the numbers of atoms of each element present in a molecule of a substance, which atom is linked to which, the types of linkages involved, and the relative positions of the atoms in space.

structural formula

a chemical formula showing the spatial arrangement of the atoms and the linkage of every atom.

vertebral formula

sets out the number of vertebrae in each of the sections of the spinal column.

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den-tal for-mu-la

a statement in tabular form of the number of each kind of teeth in the jaw; the dental formula for humans is, for the deciduous teeth:

$$i, \frac{2-2}{2-2}, c, \frac{1-1}{1-1}, m, \frac{2-2}{2-2} = 20$$

for the permanent teeth:

i. $\frac{2-2}{2-2}$, c. $\frac{1-1}{1-1}$, bic. $\frac{2-2}{2-2}$, m. $\frac{3-3}{3-3} = 32$

den-tal for-mu-la (den'täl förm'yü-lä)

A statement in tabular form of the number of each kind of teeth in the jaw.

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brasiliensis, which consists of 30 or 32 sectorial teeth and a **dental formula** of incisors 1/2 or 1/3, canines 1/1, premolars 2/2, and molars 3/3 (Wilkins, 1989).

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asap	as soon as possible
asst	assistant; dental assistant
asst	assorted
atr	atrophy
att	attachment
attr	attrition
atyp	atypical
Au	gold
ausc	auscultation
aux	auxilliary
av	avulsion
AVC	Active Vertical Corrector treatment
ave	average
aver	average
avg	average
aw	arch wire
aw adj	archwire adjustment
AZT	Azidothymidine
B	
B	buccal
b/u	build up
BA	broken appointment
bb	bad breath
BBTD	Baby Bottle Tooth Decay
bbti	bisque bake try in
BC	bone crest
BD	bony defect
BD	base of defect
BD	buccal distal
BDF - H	bony defect fill – horizontal
BDF - V	bony defect fill – vertical
bf	bone fragment
bg	bone graft
BGW	bigonial width
bi	bicuspid
BI	biologic indicators
bid	twice a day

BII	bridge supported by two implants
bil	bilateral
bis-gma	bisphenol-a-glycidyl methacrylate
bkt	bracket
BL	bone loss
bidup	build up
BMS	Burning Mouth Syndrome
bn	bon(e) (y)
BOP	bleeding on probing
bp	blood pressure
BR	by report
br	bridge
br	fixed partial denture
br bx	brush biopsy
brdg	bridge
brdg	fixed partial denture
brk	bracket
BRM	Biological Response Modifier
brux	brux(er) (ism)
BSSO	Bilateral Sagittal Split Osteotomy
BTI	bleeding time index
bu	build up
buc	buccal
BUN	Blood Urea Nitrogen level
bw	bitewing x-ray
bwx	bite wing x-ray
bwxr	bite wing x-ray
bx	biopsy
C	
— c	with
C	coarse
C & B	crown and bridge
C & S	culture and sensitivity
C/	complete upper denture
/C	complete lower denture
c/o	complaining of
ca	approximately
ca	circa