



### Key Properties

Atomic Mass	[269]
Category	Transition Metals
State at 20°C	solid
Melting Point	null
Boiling Point	null
Density	35.0*
Electron Config	[Rn] 5f146d47s2
Electronegativity	null
Year Discovered	1974
Discovered By	Albert Ghiorso

### Did You Know?

- 1 It is named in honor of Glenn T. Seaborg, an American nuclear chemist who was instrumental in the discovery of many transuranic elements.
- 2 It is one of only two elements to be named after a person who was still alive at the time (the other being Oganesson). This was highly controversial when it was proposed.
- 3 It was created by bombarding a californium target with oxygen ions.
- 4 Its most stable isotope has a half-life of about 1.9 minutes.
- 5 Experiments suggest it behaves chemically as a typical member of Group 6, similar to tungsten.

#### APPEARANCE

Seaborgium is a synthetic, highly radioactive metal.

#### SUPERHERO PERSONA

*"The Living Legend, the only hero to be named after a person while they were still alive."*

#### EVERYDAY CONNECTION

Seaborgium has no everyday connection, used only in research.

#### POP CULTURE

Seaborgium's naming was controversial. Glenn Seaborg was still alive at the time.

## Seaborgium: The Element Honoring Glenn Seaborg

Seaborgium is a synthetic, radioactive metal that does not occur in nature. Only a few atoms have ever been made. It was named after Glenn Seaborg, a pioneering American chemist who helped discover many transuranium elements and reshaped the periodic table.

### A Man-Made Element

Seaborgium is created in a heavy ion accelerator. Scientists first made it by bombarding californium-249 with oxygen-18 nuclei, producing about one atom per hour.

Because it is so rare and unstable—its longest-lived isotope lasts only about 1.9 minutes—seaborgium has no practical uses. Instead, it is studied to learn more about the behavior of superheavy elements at the edge of the periodic table.

Seaborgium has no biological role and is considered toxic due to its intense radioactivity.

### History of Discovery

The discovery of seaborgium took place during the Cold War and became another US–Russia scientific rivalry:

1974 – American Claim: A team led by Albert Ghiorso at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) in California reported creating element 106 by bombarding californium with oxygen.

1974 – Russian Claim: Around the same time, a team at the Joint Institute for Nuclear Research (JINR) in Dubna, Russia, announced they had made the element by bombarding lead with chromium.

Resolution (1997): After years of debate, the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) credited the American team and officially named the element seaborgium—making Glenn Seaborg the first living person to have an element named after him.