COMPARING BONDING: Metallic vs. Ionic vs. Covalent Compounds

Metallic Bonding	Ionic Bonding	Covalent Bonding
Positive nuclei of atoms sit next to each other in a lattice Valance shells of metallic atoms overlap Electrons are delocalized – they flow through valance shells of all of the atoms "Sea of electrons"	 Electrons transferred (lost or gained) Cations and anions are formed so that each atom achieves an octet Positive and negative charges are attracted to each other to create bond 	Electron pairs shared between two atoms so that both atoms achieve an octet
 Pure metals Alloys (mixture of metals) Sit next to each other in a lattice Left side of staircase 	Metal + Nonmetal One element from the left side of the staircase, the other from the right side	Nonmetal + Nonmetal Both on the right side of the staircase
"Delocalized electrons" or a "sea of electrons" flow through the valance shells	Positively charged cations and negatively charges anions attract each other	Electrons are shared (no charges)
Properties: Insoluble in water (do not dissolve in water) Some metals react with water Conduct electricity Malleable (can be bent and hammered into a shape) Ductile (can be stretched into wires) Melting points vary	Many are soluble in water (dissolve in water) Conduct electricity ONLY when dissolved in water (or a solvent) OR when melted ("in the molten state) Note: ionic substances that dissociate (break into ions) completely (CaCl ₂)will are strong conductors of electricity compared to ionic substances that do not dissociate completely (NaHCO ₃), which are weak conductors Crystalline structure – brittle High melting points due to strong lattice structure	Properties: Nonpolar covalent molecules are insoluble in water (do not dissolve in water) Polar covalent molecules are soluble in water (will dissolve in water) Do not conduct electricity Amorphous structure (no lattice structures) Low melting points due to weak amorphous structure