

ATP: adenosine triphosphate, a nucleotide ([link](#)) with up to three phosphate groups attached. The phosphate groups store energy, are easily broken off releasing energy. ATP stores energy for short bursts of reactions in the cell. ATP is made of ribose (a five carbon sugar), a nitrogen base of nucleic acids, and three phosphate groups. If only two phosphate groups are attached the molecule is called ADP, adenosine diphosphate. Phosphate groups can be added or subtracted from the nucleotide base. (Gould & Keeton with Grant, 1996; Solomon & Berg & Martin & Villee, 1993)