COMPARISON OF PROPERTIES OF GASES, SOLIDS, AND LIQUIDS

| PROPERTY | GAS | LIQUID | SOLID |
|-------------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Shape | Does not have its own shape; takes shape of container. | Does not have its own shape; takes shape of container. | Has its own shape. |
| Volume | Does not have its own volume; takes volume of container. | Has its own volume. | Has its own volume. |
| Distance between particles | Average distance between particles very large. | Particles close together. | Particles close together. |
| Attractions between particles | No attractions | Weak attractions | Strong attractions |
| Motion of Particles | Particles move very fast; no attractions to slow particles down. | Particles can move past each other but not very rapidly because of the attractions between particles. | Motion limited to vibration about a fixed point. |
| Flow & Diffuse | Yes | Yes, but not as readily as gases. | No |
| Expand when Heated | Expand greatly when heated. | Expand a little when heated. | Expand a little when heated. |
| Density | Very low | Density of a substance in usually lower in the liquid than in the solid state. (Notable exception: water) | High |