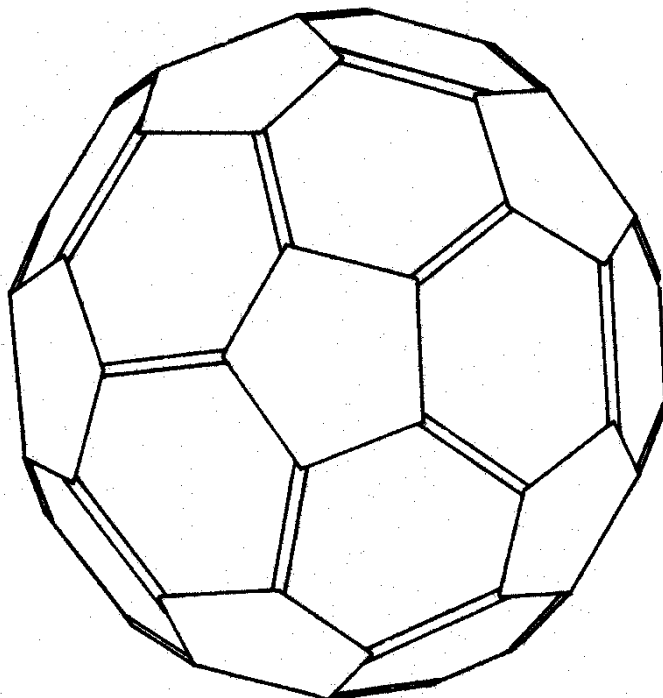


The Discovery of C₆₀, Buckminsterfullerene & The Fullerenes



C₆₀ is a 60-carbon atom molecule with a truncated icosahedron structure: 12 pentagon and 20 hexagon rings and 60 vertices - the shape of a football!

C₆₀, Buckminsterfullerene and the family of cage molecules – the Fullerenes – were discovered in 1985 by Harry Kroto and colleagues.

In 1990 a carbon-arc method was developed to make fullerenes in quantities that provided a way for the world to make and study them.

The 1996 Noble Prize for Chemistry was awarded for the discovery of the Fullerenes.