

## Fritz Strassman

Fritz Strassmann was one of the three creators of nuclear fission and a talented chemist. He joined Otto Hahn and Lise Meitner in their investigation of the bombardment of uranium with neutrons. He and his partners paved the way to nuclear energy and atomic bombs. He helped prove the idea of nuclear fission.

Fritz Strassmann was born on February 22, 1902, in Germany. He earned his PhD from the technical University of Hannover in 1929. Fritz specialized in chemistry and had a natural talent in it. According to *Britannica.com*, "After serving briefly on the staffs of the Hannover and Kaiser Wilhelm institutes (destroyed in 1944), Strassmann in 1946 became professor of inorganic and nuclear chemistry at the University of Mainz, where he established the Institute of Inorganic Chemistry (later the Institute of Nuclear Chemistry). From 1945 to 1953 he was director of the chemistry department at the Max Planck Institute for Chemistry." All of this demonstrates that Strassmann was quite a talented chemist.

Strassmann helped his partners Otto Hahn and Lise Meitner with his expertise in chemistry and contributed to the team's recognition the lighter elements produced from neutron bombardment. These three worked tirelessly together until they finally split the uranium atom into smaller atoms. According to *Britannica.com*, "Fritz's mastery of analytic chemistry contributed to the team's recognition of the lighter elements produced from neutron bombardment, which were the result of the splitting of the uranium atom into two lighter atoms." This meant that they invented nuclear fission together.

Nuclear Fission led to the use of Nuclear energy. When nuclear fission occurs, an atom is split in two, which releases energy in the form of heat. Nuclear reactors harvest this heat and turn it into electricity. According to an article titled *How Do Nuclear Weapons Work?* "Nuclear fission produces the atomic bomb, a weapon of mass destruction that uses power released by the splitting of atomic nuclei." The energy produced creates a massive explosion as a chain reaction is set off within the bomb.

**Fritz was a incredibly talented chemist. He helped his partners Otto Hahn and Lise Meitner prove the idea of nuclear fission. He also helped pave the way to to nuclear energy and atomic bombs. All in all, Fritz Strassmann was a very talented and important scientist.**

**Bibliography:**

**Sources:**

**How do nuclear weapons Work-Publisher:?**

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