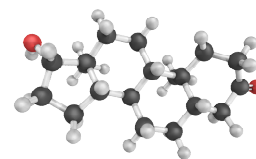


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# Hydrocarbons

Many organic compounds consist of **only carbon and hydrogen atoms and are known as hydrocarbons**. Hydrocarbons are subdivided into two groups: aliphatic hydrocarbons and aromatic hydrocarbons. The **aromatic** hydrocarbons are a ring made from six carbons and contain three double bonds.

The **aliphatic** hydrocarbons are **chains of carbon atoms and contain single, double or triple bonds**. Those with only single bonds are known as **saturated** and those with double or triple bonds are called **unsaturated**. Since carbon can form single, double and triple bonds three types of aliphatic hydrocarbons are possible:

- alkanes – only single bonds
- alkenes – one or more double bonds
- alkynes – one or more triple bonds

## Hydrocarbons

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aliphatic – \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

saturated - \_\_\_\_\_

unsaturated - \_\_\_\_\_

## Alkanes

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The general formula for alkanes is  $C_n H_{2n+2}$ , where **n** is the number of carbon atoms in the chain.

Naming alkanes is simple, just choose the prefix that indicates the number of carbons in the chain and add the suffix **-ane** to the end.

### Examples:

\_\_\_\_\_ CH<sub>4</sub>

\_\_\_\_\_ C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub>

\_\_\_\_\_ C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>8</sub>

\_\_\_\_\_ C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>10</sub>

## Alkenes

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The general formula for alkanes is **C<sub>n</sub>H<sub>2n</sub>**, where **n** is the number of carbon atoms in the chain.

To name alkenes, indicate where the double bond is by numbering the carbon chain starting with the end closest to the double bond. Then use a prefix to indicate the number of carbons in the chain and add the suffix **-ene** to the end. For chains that contain two double bonds, list the location of the double bonds and add the suffix **-adiene** to the end.

### Examples:

\_\_\_\_\_ C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>

\_\_\_\_\_ C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>6</sub>

\_\_\_\_\_ C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>8</sub>

\_\_\_\_\_ C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>10</sub>

Alkenes are more \_\_\_\_\_ that alkanes because of the double bond.

## Alkynes

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The general formula for alkanes is **C<sub>n</sub>H<sub>2n-2</sub>**, where **n** is the number of carbon atoms in the chain.

To name alkynes, indicate where the triple bond is by numbering the carbon chain starting with the end closest to the triple bond. Then use a prefix to indicate the number of carbons in the chain and add the suffix **-yne** to the end.

## Examples:

\_\_\_\_\_  $C_2H_2$

\_\_\_\_\_  $C_3H_4$

\_\_\_\_\_  $C_4H_6$

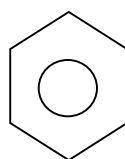
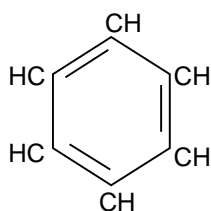
Alkynes are the most \_\_\_\_\_ because of the triple bond.

## Aromatics

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The simplest aromatic is benzene,  $C_6H_6$ . Benzene and the other aromatics are usually represented by the skeletal form.

### Benzene $C_6H_6$



The benzene molecule can be substituted on in the same manner as the aliphatic hydrocarbons. A hydrogen can be replaced with a functional group, a halide or other benzenes. The carbon that receives the substituent becomes the number one carbon and the other carbons are numbered in sequence 2 through 6. Phenol and toluene are organic solvents that use the classical names instead of the IUPAC naming system.

If there are only two substituents use the traditional naming system referring to the relative positions of the substituents.

ortho - or **o**- for 1,2-distribution  
meta - or **m**- for 1,3-distribution  
para - or **p**- for 1,4-distribution

If there are three or more groups on the ring, position numbers are assigned to give the minimum sum of numbers.

***“Life is like football: it knocks you down hard, then expects you to get back up...and play till the whistle blows.”***