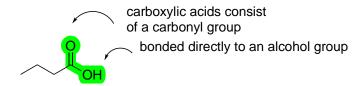
Carboxylic Acids

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Summary

| Functional group | General formula | Structure/example | Prefix | Suffix |
|------------------|--------------------|-------------------|----------|-----------|
| Carboxylic acid | -соон | O—CO | carboxy- | -oic acid |



-COOH must be on the terminal position. Thus the -1- locant can be dropped from the name in most cases.

Selected Reactions

Carboxylic acids are formed from oxidation of aldehydes:

Carboxylic acids combine with alcohols to make esters:

Carboxylic acids combine with amines to make amides:

$$OH$$
 + NH_3 + H_2O butanoic acid + ammonia butanamide + water

Worked Examples

Butanoic acid

STEP 1: Identify the parent hydrocarbon chain

- **1.1** It should have the functional group with the highest priority
- 1.2 It should have the maximum length



- Functional group 🗸
- Longest chain 🗸

STEP 2: Count the number of carbons in the parent hydrocarbon chain and identify the appropriate prefix. If the parent chain is an alkane, add the -an suffix.

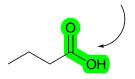


4 C = BUT

ALKANE = -AN-

STEP 3: Identify the functional group with the highest priority and its suffix

CARBOXYLIC ACID = -OIC ACID



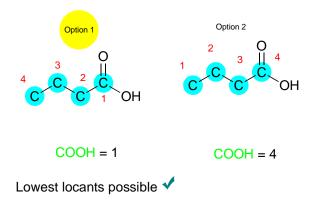
STEP 4: Identify side chains. Count the number of carbons and identify their prefix and suffix

None

STEP 5: Identify any remaining functional groups (including double and triple bonds) and their suffixes

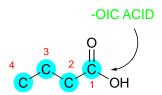
None

STEP 6: Number the parent hydrocarbon chain from the end that produces the lowest set of locants for, in order of precedence, functional groups, double and triple bonds and side chains



STEP 7: Numbers indicating the locant of the functional group are placed directly before the functional group portion of the name.

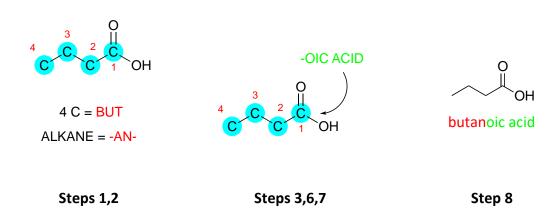
- **7.1** Names are listed alphabetically
- 7.2 If there is more than one of the same functional group, the prefix di-(2), tri-
- (3), tetra- (4) are used. These are not considered for alphabetical listing
- **7.3** If the functional group is in a position where no alternative position is possible, no number is required (e.g. ethan-1-ol should be written as ethanol)



-COOH must be on the first or last position. Thus the -1- locant can be dropped from the name.

STEP 8: Write the complete name

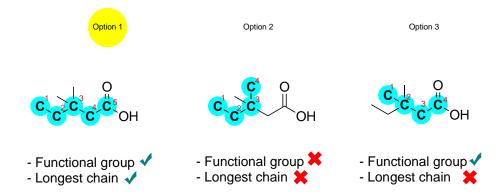
- **8.1** Commas are written between numbers
- 8.2 Hyphens are written between numbers and letters
- 8.3 Successive words are combined into one word



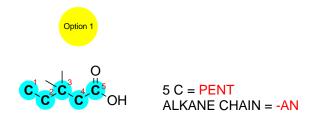
3,3-dimethylpentanoic acid

STEP 1: Identify the parent hydrocarbon chain

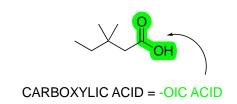
- 1.1 It should have the functional group with the highest priority
- 1.2 It should have the maximum length



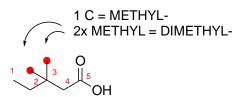
STEP 2: Count the number of carbons in the parent hydrocarbon chain and identify the appropriate prefix. If the parent chain is an alkane, add the -an suffix.



STEP 3: Identify the functional group with the highest priority and its suffix



STEP 4: Identify side chains. Count the number of carbons and identify their prefix and suffix



STEP 5: Identify any remaining functional groups (including double and triple bonds) and their suffixes

None

STEP 6: Number the parent hydrocarbon chain from the end that produces the lowest set of locants for, in order of precedence, functional groups, double and triple bonds and side chains

Option 1

Option 2

Option 2

$$\begin{array}{c}
0 \\
1 \\
2
\end{array}$$

Option 2

 $\begin{array}{c}
0 \\
4
\end{array}$

Option 2

OH

COOH = 5

METHYL = 3,3

Lowest locants possible \checkmark

STEP 7: Numbers indicating the locant of the functional group are placed directly before the functional group portion of the name.

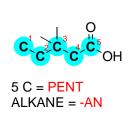
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- (3), tetra- (4) are used. These are not considered for alphabetical listing
- **7.3** If the functional group is in a position where no alternative position is possible, no number is required (e.g. ethan-1-ol should be written as ethanol)

3,3-DIMETHYL

COOH always on terminal group
The 1 locant can be dropped

STEP 8: Write the complete name

- 8.1 Commas are written between numbers
- 8.2 Hyphens are written between numbers and letters
- 8.3 Successive words are combined into one word

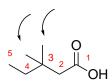


OH OH -OIC ACID

COOH always on terminal group The 1 locant can be dropped

Steps 1,2

3,3-DIMETHYL



METHYL

3,3-dimethylpentanoic acid

Steps 3,6,7

Steps 4,6,7

Step 8

Butandioic acid

$$\mathsf{OH} \bigvee_{\mathsf{O}} \mathsf{OH}$$

STEP 1: Identify the parent hydrocarbon chain

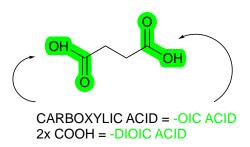
- 1.1 It should have the functional group with the highest priority
- 1.2 It should have the maximum length

Functional group ✓Longest chain ✓

STEP 2: Count the number of carbons in the parent hydrocarbon chain and identify the appropriate prefix. If the parent chain is an alkane, add the -an suffix

4 C = BUTALKANE = -AN-

STEP 3: Identify the functional group with the highest priority and its suffix



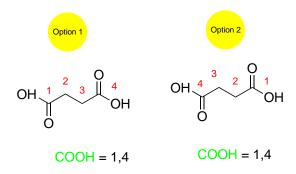
STEP 4: Identify side chains. Count the number of carbons and identify their prefix and suffix

None

STEP 5: Identify any remaining functional groups (including double and triple bonds) and their suffixes

None

STEP 6: Number the parent hydrocarbon chain from the end that produces the lowest set of locants for, in order of precedence, functional groups, double and triple bonds and side chains



Lowest locants possible 🗸

STEP 7: Numbers indicating the locant of the functional group are placed directly before the functional group portion of the name.

- 7.1 Names are listed alphabetically
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- (3), tetra- (4) are used. These are not considered for alphabetical listing
- **7.3** If the functional group is in a position where no alternative position is possible, no number is required (e.g. ethan-1-ol should be written as ethanol)

$$OH \underbrace{\begin{array}{c} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{array}}_{O} \underbrace{\begin{array}{c} 4 \\ OH \end{array}}_{OH}$$

-COOH must be on the first or last position.

Thus the -1,4- locant can be dropped from the name.

COOH = -DIOIC ACID

STEP 8: Write the complete name.

- **8.1** Commas are written between numbers
- 8.2 Hyphens are written between numbers and letters
- 8.3 Successive words are combined into one word