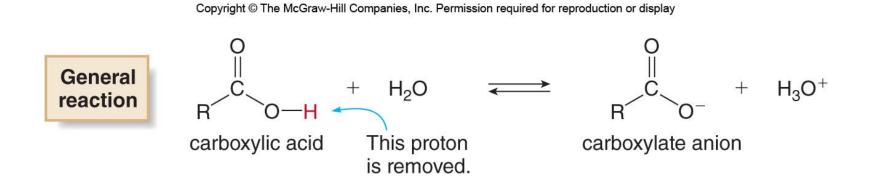
The Acidity of Carboxylic Acids

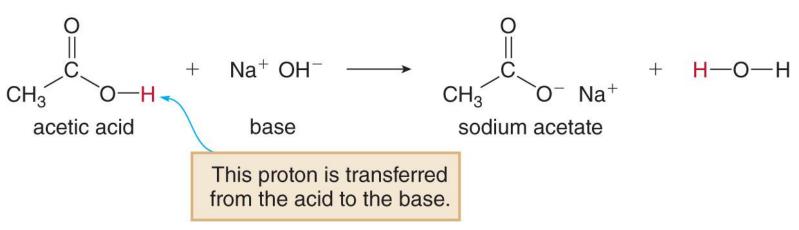
• Carboxylic acids are proton (H⁺) donors:



- They are weak acids compared to inorganic acids like HCI or H₂SO₄.
- Only a small percentage of a carboxylic acid is ionized in aqueous solution.

The Acidity of Carboxylic Acids A. Reaction with Bases

 Carboxylic acids react with bases such as NaOH to form water-soluble salts.

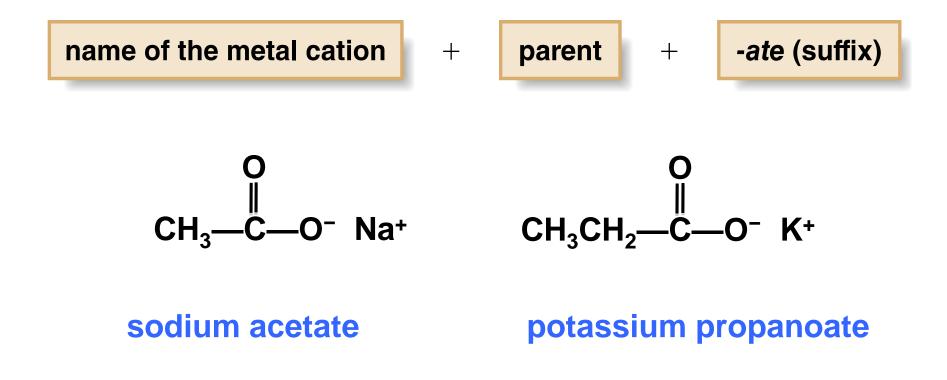


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 The carboxylic acid donates the proton to the base, OH⁻, which accepts it.

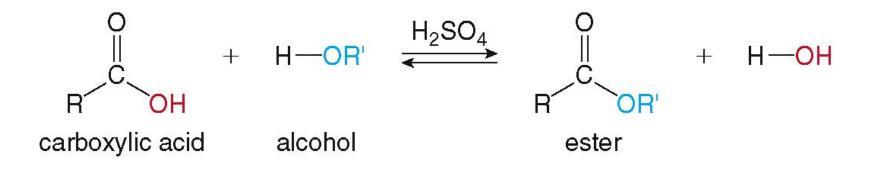
The Acidity of Carboxylic Acids B. Carboxylate Anions—Salts of Carboxylic Acids

• To name the metal salts of carboxylate ions, put the three pieces below together:



The Conversion of Carboxylic Acids to Esters and Amides

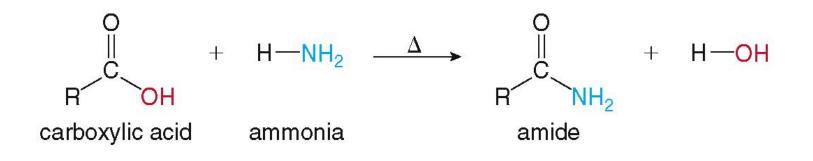
Carboxylic acids react with alcohols to form esters.



The **OR**' group replaces the **OH** group.

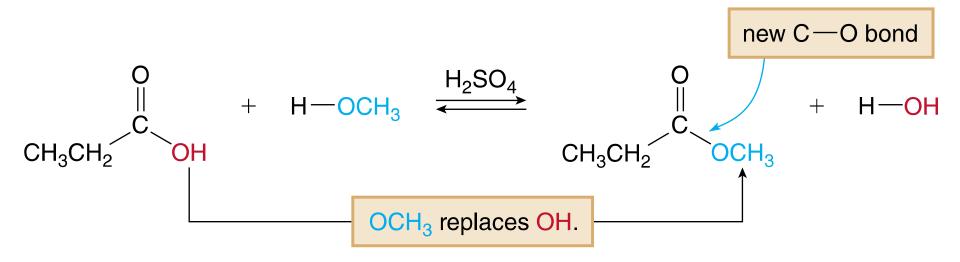
The Conversion of Carboxylic Acids to Esters and Amides

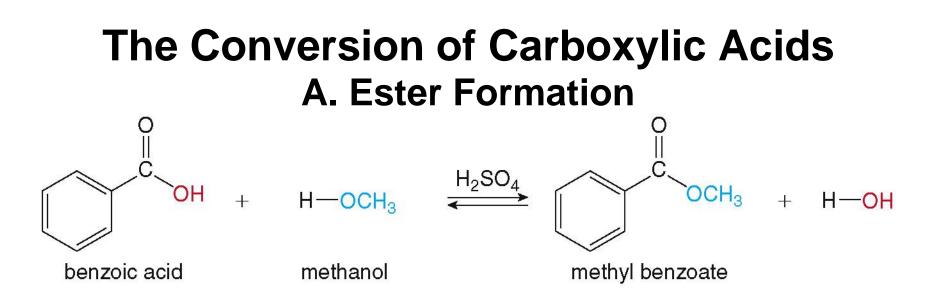
Carboxylic acids react with ammonia to form amides.



The NH₂ group replaces the OH group.

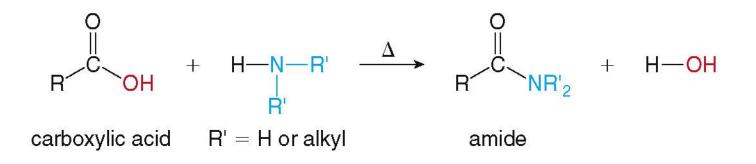
Formation of an ester is done by the Fisher esterification:





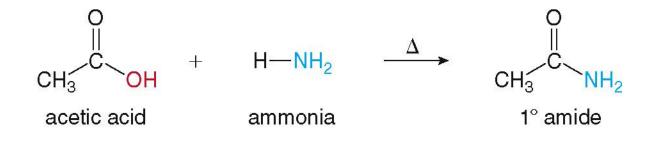
- The Fisher esterification is an equilibrium process.
- According to Le Châtelier's principle, the reaction is driven to the right by:
 - 1. using excess alcohol
 - 2. removing the water as it is formed

Heating a carboxylic acid with ammonia (NH₃) or an amine (R'NH₂ or R'₂NH) forms an amide.

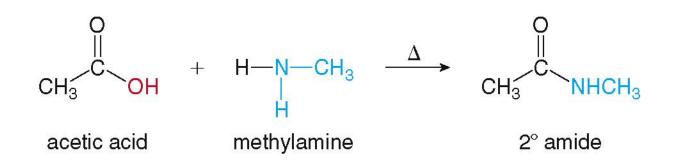


The identity of the N-compound determines the type of amide formed.

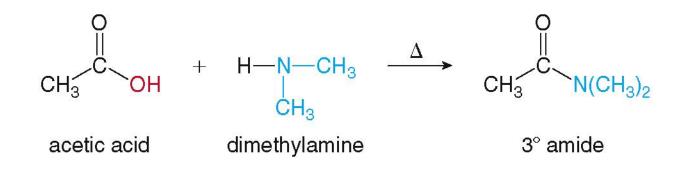
Reaction with NH₃ forms a 1° amide (RCONH₂).



Reaction with R'NH₂ forms a 2° amide (RCONHR').

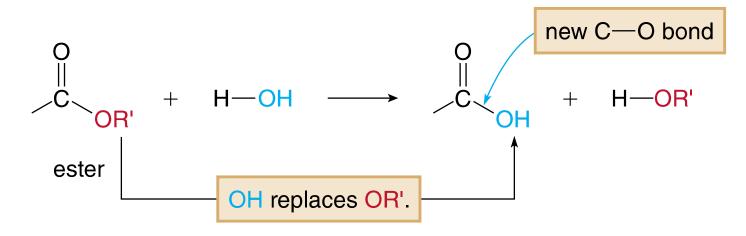


Reaction with R'₂NH forms a 3° amide (RCONR'₂).



Hydrolysis of Esters and Amides A. Ester Hydrolysis

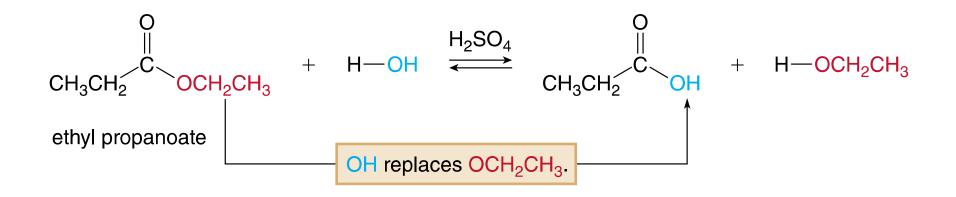
An ester reacts with water to form a carboxylic acid and an alcohol; this is a hydrolysis reaction.



The OH group replaces the OR' group.

Hydrolysis of Esters and Amides A. Ester Hydrolysis

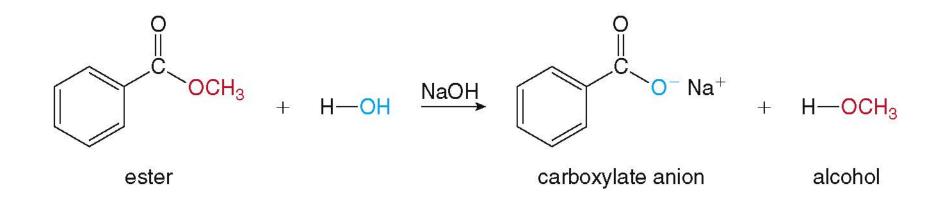
An example of ester hydrolysis using an acid catalyst:



The equilibrium is driven to the right by using a large amount of water.

Hydrolysis of Esters and Amides A. Ester Hydrolysis

An example of ester hydrolysis using an aqueous base, called saponification:



This basic hydrolysis forms the carboxylate anion rather than the carboxylic acid product.