Alkyl Halides

Table of Contents

Summary	62
Primary, secondary and tertiary carbons in alkyl halides	
Worked Examples	64
3-bromohexane	
2,2-dichlorobutane	66
4-fluoro-1,2-diiodopentane	68
2-chloro-4-ethyl-5,5-dimethylheptane	

Summary

Alkyl halides, or halogenated organic compounds, can be named using the general rules. As they are a low priority, they are generally only incorporated in prefix form into the name of the compound.

Halogen	Prefix
Fluorine	fluoro-
Chlorine	chloro-
Bromine	bromo-
lodine	iodo-

When multiple halides of the same type are included in compound, the prefixes di- (2), tri- (3) and tetra- (4) are used.

When multiple halides of different types are included in the compound, the names of the halides are listed alphabetically (bromo-, chloro-, fluoro-, iodo-). In the case that there are multiple halides of the same and different types, the prefixes di-, tri- and tetra- are not considered in the alphabetical ordering.

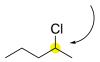
If there are side chains and halogens, the halogen component of the name takes priority.

Alkenes undergo addition reactions with hydrogen halides to form alkyl halides:

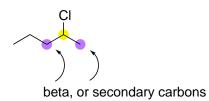
Primary, secondary and tertiary carbons in alkyl halides

Similarly to alcohols, alkyl halides contain alpha carbons. These can also be referred to as primary carbons. This refers to the carbon to which the halide is directly attached.

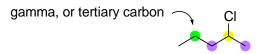
alpha, or primary carbon



The carbon to which the alpha carbon is attached is called the beta, or secondary carbon.



The carbon to which the beta carbon is attached, on the side *away* from the alpha carbon, is called the gamma, or tertiary carbon.



These concepts are relevant when discussing carbon environments in NMR.

Worked Examples

3-bromohexane

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.

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

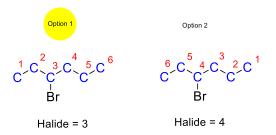
STEP 4: Identify side chains. Count the number of carbons and identify their prefix and suffix

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

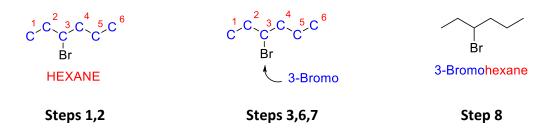


Lowest locants possible

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

STEP 8: Write the complete name

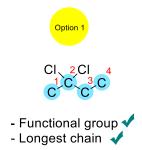
- **8.1** Commas are written between numbers
- 8.2 Hyphens are written between numbers and letters
- 8.3 Successive words are combined into one word



2,2-dichlorobutane

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.

$$CI \quad {}_{2}CI \quad {}_{4}$$

$$C \quad {}_{3}C$$

$$4 \quad C = BUT$$

$$ALKANE = -ANE$$

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

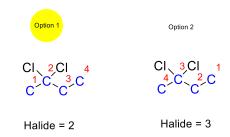
STEP 4: Identify side chains. Count the number of carbons and identify their prefix and suffix

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
- 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

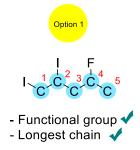
STEP 8: Write the complete name

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4-fluoro-1,2-diiodopentane

- 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



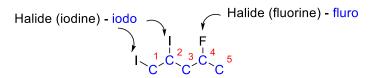
STEP 2: Count the number of carbons in the parent hydrocarbon chain and identify the appropriate prefix. If the parent chain is an alkane, add the -an suffix

$$I = \begin{bmatrix} I & F \\ I & C & 3 & C & 5 \\ C & C & C & C \end{bmatrix}$$

$$5 C = PENT$$

$$ALKANE = -ANE$$

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



Both halides, hence equal priority

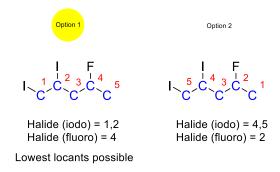
STEP 4: Identify side chains. Count the number of carbons and identify their prefix and suffix

None

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

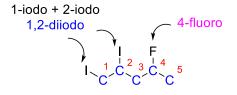
None

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



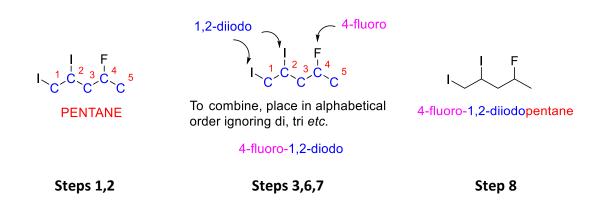
STEP 7: Numbers indicating the locant of the functional group are placed directly before the functional group portion of the name.

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STEP 8: Write the complete name

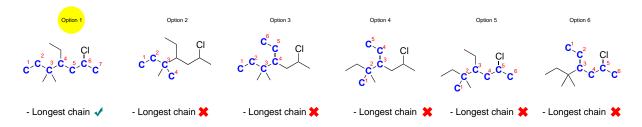
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2-chloro-4-ethyl-5,5-dimethylheptane

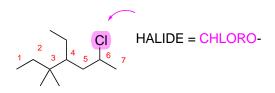
STEP 1: Identify the parent hydrocarbon chain

- **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



71

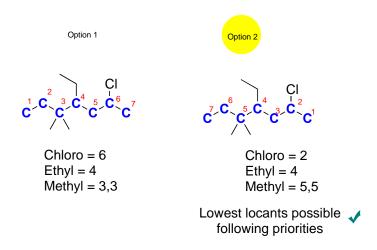
STEP 4: Identify side chains. Count the number of carbons and identify their prefix and suffix

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

None

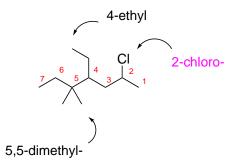
$$ALKANE = -AN-$$

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



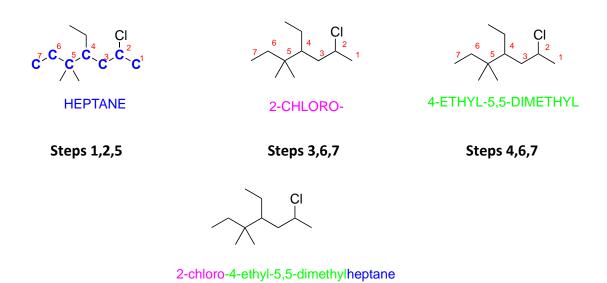
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Step 8