





The general mechanism of nucleophilic acyl substitution occurs in two stages. The first is addition of the nucleophile (Nu) to the carbonyl carbon to form a <u>tetrahedral intermediate</u>. The second stage in collapse of the tetrahedral intermediate to reform the carbonyl with expulsion of a leaving group (Y). There is overall substitution of the leaving group (Y) of the acid derivative with the nucleophile (Nu).





The reactivity of the acid derivative is related to it resonance stabilization. The C-N bond of amides is significantly stabilized through resonance and is consequently, the least reactive acid derivative. The C-CI bond of acid chlorides is the least stabilized by resonance and is the most reactive acid derivative.





2. *Ester formation* (Ch. 15.8): Acid chlorides react with alcohols to give esters. Reactivity: 1° alcohols react faster than 2° alcohols, which react much faster than 3° alcohols

3. Amide formation (Ch. 19.4): Acid chlorides react with ammonia, 1° or 2° amines affords amides.

4. *Hydrolysis* (Ch. 19.4): Acid chlorides react with water to afford carboxylic acids

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19.5: Nucleophilic Acyl Substitution in Acid Anhydrides Anhydrides are prepared from acid chlorides and a carboxylic acid *Reactions of acid anhydrides* (Table 19.2): Acid anhydrides are slightly less reactive that acid chlorides; however, the overall reactions are nearly identical and they are often used interchangeably.
1. Ester formation (Ch. 15.8):
2. Amide Formation (Ch. 19.14):
3. Hydrolysis to give carboxylic acids (Ch. 19.5):

 19.6: Physical Properties and Sources of Esters (please read 19.7: Reactions of Esters: A Preview. Preparation of esters (Table 19.3, p. 782) 1. Fischer esterification (Ch. 15.8 & 18.14) 		
 Reaction of acid chlorides or acid anhydrides with alcohol (Ch. 15.8,19.4 & 19.5) 	ls	
3. Baeyer-Villiger oxidation of ketones (p. 732)		
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Nucleophilic acyl substitution reactions of esters (Table 19.4): Esters are less reactive toward nucleophilic acyl substitution than acid chlorides or acid anhydrides.

1. *Amide formation* (Ch.19.11): Esters react with ammonia, 1° and 2° amines to give amides

2. *Hydrolysis* (Ch.19.9-19.10): Esters can be hydrolyzed to carboxylic acids and an alcohol with aqueous base or acid-catalysis.

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19.8: Acid-catalyzed I	Ester Hydrolysis.	Reverse of the Fischer
esterification reaction.	(Mechanism 19.2,	p. 784-5)

Protonation of the ester carbonyl accelerates nucleophilic addition of water to the carbonyl carbon giving the tetrahedral intermediate. Protonation of the -OR' group then accelerates the expulsion of HOR'.

19.9: Ester Hydrolysis in Base: Saponification Mechanism of the base-promoted hydrolysis (Mechanism 19.3, p. 789)

Why is the saponification of esters not base-catalyzed?

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Synthesis of Amides: Amides are most commonly prepared from the reactions of ammonia, 1° or 2° amines with acids chlorides, acid anhydrides or esters. This is a nucleophilic acyl substitution reaction.









19.19: Addition of Grignard Reagents to Nitriles. One equiv. of a Grignard Reagent will add to a nitrile. After aqueous acid work-up, the product is a ketone.



Must consider functional group compatibility; there is wide flexibility in the choice of Grignard reagents.







¹³C NMR: very useful for determining the presence and nature of carbonyl groups. The typical chemical shift range for C=O carbon is $\delta 160 - 220$ ppm. Aldehydes and ketones: δ 190 - 220 ppm Carboxylic acids, esters and amides: δ 160 - 185 ppm 0 Н₃С-С-О-СН₂СН₃ 14.2 60.3 21.0 CDCl₃ 170.9 21.0 14.8 H₃C-C -N-CH₂CH₃ 34.4 170.4 CDCl₃ 184 x 200 175 150 125 100 75 50 25

Nitriles have a sharp IR absorption near 2250 cm⁻¹ for alkyl nitriles and 2230 cm⁻¹ for aromatic and conjugated nitriles (highly diagnostic)

The nitrile functional group is invisible in the ¹H NMR. The effect of a nitrile on the chemical shift of the protons on the α -carbon is similar to that of a ketone.

The chemical shift of the nitrile carbon in the 13 C spectrum is in the range of ~115-130 (significant overlap with the aromatic region).







