

UNIT 8 – ALKYL HALIDES

VTOC: Alkyl Halides [Occurrence](#)

[General Reactivity](#)

[Substitution\(of X\)](#)

[S_N2 Mechanism](#)

[S_N1 Mechanism](#)

[Elimination \(of HX\)](#)

[Summary of Substitution vs. Elimination](#)

[Substitution by Metals](#)

[Elimination Reactions of Dihalides](#)

UCD: [Section 8.1: Introduction to the nucleophilic substitution reaction](#)

[Section 8.2: Two mechanistic models for a nucleophilic substitution reaction](#)

[Section 8.3: More about nucleophiles](#)

[Section 8.4: Electrophiles and carbocation stability](#)

[Section 8.5: Leaving groups and solvent effects](#)

Skills:

8A. Identify halides and carbocations as being 1°, 2°, or 3°

8B. Draw the mechanism of an S_N2 and S_N1 reactions including stereochemistry

8C. Predict how reaction conditions (substrate, nucleophile, leaving group, solvent) effect the rate of S_N1 and S_N2 reactions.

8D. Determine if a set of conditions is likely to be S_N1 or S_N2 and predict the products including stereochemistry.

8E. Identify alkenes as being mono, di, tri or tetra substituted, cis or trans, and predict the trend in stability

8F. Draw the mechanism of the E2 & E1 reactions.

8G. Predict all possible elimination products of an alkyl halide and identify the major product

8H. Predict how reaction conditions (substrate, base, leaving group, solvent) effect the rate of E2

8I. Predict the products of Substitution and Elimination reactions

8J. Determine if a set of conditions will be S_N2, E2 or S_N1/E1 and predict the products.

8K. Predict the elimination products of dihalides

Nu	Base	Examples	Methyl	1°	2°	3°	Remarks
Neutral	Weak	H ₂ O, ROH	n/a	n/a	S _N 1/E1	S _N 1/E1	Always S _N 1/E1 mix
Negative	Weak	Cl ⁻ , Br ⁻ , I ⁻ , SH ⁻ , CN ⁻ , RCO ₂ ⁻	S _N 2	S _N 2	S _N 2	S _N 1/E1	S _N 2, except with 3°
Good	Strong	-OH, -OR -C≡CR, -NH ₂	S _N 2	S _N 2	S _N 2/E2	E2	
Poor	Strong & Bulky	-OtBu, DBN, DBU	S _N 2	E2	E2	E2	E2, except with methyl
Remarks			Always S _N 2	Always S _N 2, except with bulky base			