

esters

Compounds formally derived from an *oxoacid* $R_kE(=O)_l(OH)_m$ ($l \neq 0$), and an alcohol, phenol, heteroarenol, or enol by linking with formal loss of water from an acidic hydroxy group of the former and a hydroxy group of the latter. By extension *acyl* derivatives of alcohols, etc. Acyl derivatives of chalcogen analogues of alcohols (thiols, selenols, tellurols) etc. are included. E.g. $R'C(=O)OR$, $R'C(=S)OR$, $R'C(=O)SR$, $R'S(=O)_2OR$, $(HO)_2P(=O)OR$, $(R'S)_2C(=O)$, $ROCN$ (but not $R-NCO$) ($R \neq H$).

Note:

O-Alkyl derivatives of other acidic compounds [see *amides (1)*] may be named as esters but do not belong to the class esters proper. E.g. $(Ph)_2POCH_3$ methyl diphenylphosphinite.

See also *acylals*, *ortho esters*, *depsides*, *depsipeptides*, *glycerides*, *lactides*, *lactones*, *macrolides*.

1995, 67, 1334