Carboxylic Acids

Carboxylic acids are hydrocarbons with a carboxyl group.

General Formula:

Naming Rules

Prefix: number of carbons in alkane

Ending: - anoic acid -

Ex. CH₃COOH

Some carboxylic acids have more the one carboxyl group:

Ex 1. Lactic Acid

Ex 2. Citric Acid

Properties of Carboxylic Acids

They have the same properties of regular acids (ex. Turn litmus red, react with metals, etc)

Carboxyl group makes all carboxylic acids polar and capable of H-bonding. Therefore they all have high M.P. and B.P.

Short carboxylic acids are soluble in water, but longer ones are insoluble (because of non-polar chain)