

## Chemguide – questions

### ALCOHOLS: REPLACING THE -OH GROUP BY A HALOGEN

- Describe what you would see if you added a small amount of phosphorus(V) chloride to an alcohol.
  - This can only be used as a test for an alcohol if you first eliminate other compounds which also contain an -OH group. Give two completely different examples of something which would react with  $\text{PCl}_5$  in a similar way.
- Suggest two different ways you could convert ethanol into bromoethane. For each method you suggest, give the reagent(s) and any essential conditions.
- To convert propan-1-ol into 1-iodopropane, you can heat it with a mixture of concentrated phosphoric(V) acid and potassium iodide. You can think of this mixture producing hydrogen iodide which then reacts with the alcohol.
  - Write the equation for the reaction of propan-1-ol with hydrogen iodide.
  - Explain why phosphoric(V) acid is used rather than concentrated sulphuric acid.
  - You can also convert propan-1-ol into 1-iodopropane using a mixture of red phosphorus and iodine. Write the equations for the reactions which occur.
- Write the equation for the reaction between butan-1-ol and thionyl chloride (sulphur dichloride oxide –  $\text{SOCl}_2$ ).
  - What advantage does this method have over other methods of replacing -OH groups by -Cl?
  - The tertiary alcohol, 2-methylpropan-2-ol, can be converted into 2-chloro-2-methylpropane, by treating it with concentrated hydrochloric acid at room temperature. Explain why you wouldn't choose to use this method for a primary or secondary alcohol.
  - Apart from the reactions with  $\text{PCl}_5$  or  $\text{SOCl}_2$ , what other single reagent could you use to convert propan-1-ol into 1-chloropropane? Write the equation for the reaction.