

Drawing Bond-Line Structures of Organic Molecules

L. Cabana, Fall 1999

Chemists routinely draw the structures of organic molecules as "Bond-Line Structures". This format simplifies Lewis Dot Structures in several ways:

1) **unshared electron pairs are omitted**

Exception: unshared pairs are sometimes drawn when explaining "reaction mechanisms"

2) **H atoms bonded to C are omitted** (assume enough H atoms bonded to total 4 bonds)

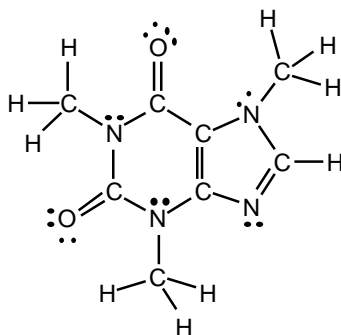
Exception: H atoms on terminal C atoms are often shown (i.e., —CH_3 , =CH_2 , ≡CH)

3) **for H bonded to any element, the bond is omitted** (e.g., —O—H becomes —OH)

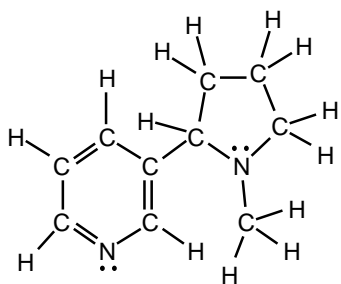
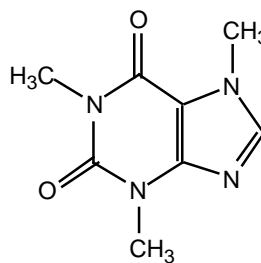
4) **C atoms are indicated by "corners" on the molecular "skeleton"**

Exception: Terminal C atoms are usually shown (for clarity)

Examples:



Caffeine



Nicotine

Exam 3 Extra Credit: Memorize and draw any* two molecules on the "Pleasing Aromas" list (or from the examples above) for 3 points extra credit each (percentage points).

Each structure must be drawn in two ways (as above): as a Bond-Line structure, and as the complete Lewis dot structure (all atoms, bonds, and unshared electron pairs shown). Also give the common name of the aroma (e.g., "*popcorn*" instead of "methyl 2-pyridyl ketone").

* **Two exceptions which are not eligible:**

1. *coffee* aroma (too easy)
2. either *garlic* or *onion* aroma may be chosen, but not both (these two are too similar)