An ether is a compound that has the following general structural formula.

\[ R^1 \cdash O \cdash R^2 \]

- \( R^1 \) and \( R^2 \) could be alkyl groups, aryl groups, or a combination thereof.

eg:

\[ \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\cdash O \cdash \text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3 \]

The oxygen atom in an ether molecule is called the ether group.

see also symmetrical ether, unsymmetrical ether, aliphatic ether, aromatic ether, cyclic ether, acyclic ether, silyl ether, crown ether

Contributors

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