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

\[
\begin{array}{c}
R^1 \\
\text{C} \\
R^2 \\
\text{N} \\
R^3
\end{array}
\]

$R^1$, $R^2$, and $R^3$ could be hydrogen atoms, alkyl groups, aryl groups, or any combination thereof.

**eg:**

![Imine examples](image)

If, in an imine molecule, the ligand on the nitrogen atom is an alkyl or aryl group, the imine is also called a Schiff's base.

**eg:**

![Schiff's base examples](image)

The carbon-nitrogen double bond in an imine molecule is called the imine group.
Contributors

- Gamini Gunawardena from the OChemPal site (Utah Valley University)