

General steps to identify an unknown organic compound:



1. Solubility test: to obtain information on whether the unknown is an acid, neutral, or a basic compound;

2. Collecting data on modern instruments:

(a) IR,

(b) ^1H NMR,

(c) ^{13}C NMR,

(d) mass spectrum,

(e) DEPT ^{13}C and 2D NMR if needed.

3. Deduce the structure.

