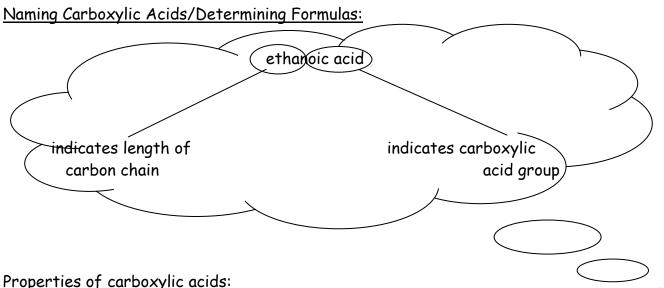
Carboxylic Acids

Carboxylic acids take the general form of:

The functional group of carboxylic acids is the carboxyl group, written as -COOH. This functional group is a combination of two other functional groups that you are already familiar with: the carbonyl(-C=O) group in aldehydes and ketones, and the hydroxyl(-OH) group in alcohols.



- are acidic (turn blue litmus paper red)
 - the carboxyl group (both OH and double bond O) cause these molecules to be polar
 - smaller carboxylic molecules are soluble in water, larger carboxylic acid molecules are insoluble
 - polar carboxyl groups also account for the high melting points of acids, compared with the melting points of similar hydrocarbons
 - number of carboxyl groups per molecule affects the melting point of a carboxylic acid

HMRK: pg. 220 #1-4, 5 (good for studying)