

**Source:** [\[KBhBIO101AminoAcids\]](#)

# 1 | Enzymes

Proteins that build things up and break things down!

A macromolecular **catalyst**, it...

1. Speeds up the rate of reactions
2. Does not get consumed by the reaction
  1. Not a fundamental product
  2. Not a fundamental reactant
3. Shape determines the reactions that it can participate in
4. Enzymes are subject to **protean denaturation** => if the protein unfolds, its function will be lost.  
Triggered by excess heat, acid, and other problems