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Properties of Organic Solvents

The values in the table below except as noted have been extracted from online and hardbound compilations . Values for relative polarity, eluant strength, threshold limits and vapor pressure have been extracted from: Christian Reichardt, *Solvents and Solvent Effects in Organic Chemistry*, Wiley-VCH Publishers, 3rd ed., **2003**. For [Spectra of Solvents](#), jump to the bottom of this p <http://murov.info/webercises.htm> age. For an *Organic Chemistry Directory*, see: <http://murov.info/orgchem.htm> .

For a *Chemistry Directory*, see: <http://murov.info/webercises.htm>

For much more complete information on physical and safety properties of solvents, please go to:

http://www.knovel.com/web/portal/browse/display? EXT_KNOVEL_DISPLAY_bookid=761
<http://chem.sis.nlm.nih.gov/chemidplus/chemidlite.jsp>

The tables below were posted (10/23/98) and revised (07/28/09) and updated (04/10/10) by Steve Murov, Professor Emeritus of Chemistry.

[Table 1 arranged alphabetically](#) , [Table 2 arranged according to increasing polarity](#)

TABLE 1

| <u>Solvent</u> | formula | boiling point (°C) | melting point (°C) | density (g/mL) | solubility in H ₂ O ¹ (g/100g) | relative polarity ² | eluant strength ³ | threshold limits ⁴ (ppm) | vapor pressur 20°C (hPa) |
|----------------------|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|--|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| acetic acid | C ₂ H ₄ O ₂ | 118 | 16.6 | 1.049 | M | 0.648 | >1 | 10 | 15.3 |
| acetone | C ₃ H ₆ O | 56.2 | -94.3 | 0.786 | M | 0.355 | 0.56 | 500 | 240 |
| acetonitrile | C ₂ H ₃ N | 81.6 | -46 | 0.786 | M | 0.460 | 0.65 | 20 | 97 |
| acetyl acetone | C ₅ H ₈ O ₂ | 140.4 | -23 | 0.975 | 16 | 0.571 | | | |
| 2-aminoethanol | C ₂ H ₇ NO | 170.9 | 10.5 | 1.018 | M | 0.651 | | 3 | 0.53 |
| aniline | C ₆ H ₇ N | 184.4 | -6.0 | 1.022 | 3.4 | 0.420 | | 2 | 0.4 |
| anisole | C ₇ H ₈ O | 153.7 | -37.5 | 0.996 | 0.10 | 0.198 | | | |
| benzene | C ₆ H ₆ | 80.1 | 5.5 | 0.879 | 0.18 | 0.111 | 0.32 | 0.5 | 101 |
| benzonitrile | C ₇ H ₅ N | 205 | -13 | 0.996 | 0.2 | 0.333 | | 10 | 12 |
| benzyl alcohol | C ₇ H ₈ O | 205.4 | -15.3 | 1.042 | 3.5 | 0.608 | | | |
| 1-butanol | C ₄ H ₁₀ O | 117.6 | -89.5 | 0.81 | 7.7 | 0.586 | | 20 | 6.3 |
| 2-butanol | C ₄ H ₁₀ O | 99.5 | -114.7 | 0.808 | 18.1 | 0.506 | | 100 | |
| i-butanol | C ₄ H ₁₀ O | 107.9 | -108.2 | 0.803 | 8.5 | 0.552 | | | |
| 2-butanone | C ₄ H ₈ O | 79.6 | -86.3 | 0.805 | 25.6 | 0.327 | 0.51 | 200 | 105 |
| t-butyl alcohol | C ₄ H ₁₀ O | 82.2 | 25.5 | 0.786 | M | 0.389 | | 100 | 41 |
| carbon disulfide | CS ₂ | 46.3 | -111.6 | 1.263 | 0.2 | 0.065 | 0.15 | 10 | 400 |
| carbon tetrachloride | CCl ₄ | 76.7 | -22.4 | 1.594 | 0.08 | 0.052 | 0.18 | 5 | 120 |
| chlorobenzene | C ₆ H ₅ Cl | 132 | -45.6 | 1.106 | 0.05 | 0.188 | 0.30 | 10 | 12 |
| chloroform | CHCl ₃ | 61.2 | -63.5 | 1.498 | 0.8 | 0.259 | | 10 | 210 |
| cyclohexane | C ₆ H ₁₂ | 80.7 | 6.6 | 0.779 | 0.005 | 0.006 | 0.04 | 100 | 104 |
| cyclohexanol | C ₆ H ₁₂ O | 161.1 | 25.2 | 0.962 | 4.2 | 0.509 | | 50 | 1.2 |
| cyclohexanone | C ₆ H ₁₀ O | 155.6 | -16.4 | 0.948 | 2.3 | 0.281 | | 25 | 5 |
| di-n-butylphthalate | C ₁₆ H ₂₂ O ₄ | 340 | -35 | 1.049 | 0.0011 | 0.272 | | | |
| 1,1-dichloroethane | C ₂ H ₄ Cl ₂ | 57.3 | -97.0 | 1.176 | 0.5 | 0.269 | | 100 | 240 |
| diethylene glycol | C ₄ H ₁₀ O ₃ | 245 | -10 | 1.118 | M | 0.713 | | | 0.027 |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|--|--------|--------|-------|--------|-------|------|-----|-----|
| diglyme | C ₆ H ₁₄ O ₃ | 162 | -64 | 0.945 | M | 0.244 | | | |
| dimethoxyethane (glyme) | C ₄ H ₁₀ O ₂ | 85 | -58 | 0.868 | M | 0.231 | | | |
| N,N-dimethylaniline | C ₈ H ₁₁ N | 194.2 | 2.4 | 0.956 | 0.14 | 0.179 | | | |
| dimethylformamide (DMF) | C ₃ H ₇ NO | 153 | -61 | 0.944 | M | 0.386 | | 10 | 3.5 |
| dimethylphthalate | C ₁₀ H ₁₀ O ₄ | 283.8 | 1 | 1.190 | 0.43 | 0.309 | | | |
| dimethylsulfoxide (DMSO) | C ₂ H ₆ OS | 189 | 18.4 | 1.092 | M | 0.444 | 0.75 | | |
| dioxane | C ₄ H ₈ O ₂ | 101.1 | 11.8 | 1.033 | M | 0.164 | 0.56 | 20 | 41 |
| ethanol | C ₂ H ₆ O | 78.5 | -114.1 | 0.789 | M | 0.654 | 0.88 | 100 | 59 |
| ether | C ₄ H ₁₀ O | 34.6 | -116.3 | 0.713 | 7.5 | 0.117 | 0.38 | 400 | 587 |
| ethyl acetate | C ₄ H ₈ O ₂ | 77 | -83.6 | 0.894 | 8.7 | 0.228 | 0.58 | 400 | 97 |
| ethyl acetoacetate | C ₆ H ₁₀ O ₃ | 180.4 | -80 | 1.028 | 2.9 | 0.577 | | | |
| ethyl benzoate | C ₉ H ₁₀ O ₂ | 213 | -34.6 | 1.047 | 0.07 | 0.228 | | | |
| ethylene glycol | C ₂ H ₆ O ₂ | 197 | -13 | 1.115 | M | 0.790 | 1.11 | | |
| glycerin | C ₃ H ₈ O ₃ | 290 | 17.8 | 1.261 | M | 0.812 | | | |
| heptane | C ₇ H ₁₆ | 98 | -90.6 | 0.684 | 0.0003 | 0.012 | | 400 | 48 |
| 1-heptanol | C ₇ H ₁₆ O | 176.4 | -35 | 0.819 | 0.17 | 0.549 | | | |
| hexane | C ₆ H ₁₄ | 69 | -95 | 0.655 | 0.0014 | 0.009 | 0.01 | 50 | 160 |
| 1-hexanol | C ₆ H ₁₄ O | 158 | -46.7 | 0.814 | 0.59 | 0.559 | | | |
| methanol | CH ₄ O | 64.6 | -98 | 0.791 | M | 0.762 | 0.95 | 200 | 128 |
| methyl acetate | C ₃ H ₆ O ₂ | 56.9 | -98.1 | 0.933 | 24.4 | 0.253 | | 200 | 220 |
| methyl t-butyl ether (MTBE) | C ₅ H ₁₂ O | 55.2 | -109 | 0.741 | 4.8 | 0.124 | 0.20 | | |
| methylene chloride | CH ₂ Cl ₂ | 39.8 | -96.7 | 1.326 | 1.32 | 0.309 | 0.42 | 50 | 475 |
| 1-octanol | C ₈ H ₁₈ O | 194.4 | -15 | 0.827 | 0.096 | 0.537 | | | |
| pentane | C ₅ H ₁₂ | 36.1 | -129.7 | 0.626 | 0.004 | 0.009 | 0.00 | 600 | 573 |
| 1-pentanol | C ₅ H ₁₂ O | 138.0 | -78.2 | 0.814 | 2.2 | 0.568 | | | |
| 2-pentanol | C ₅ H ₁₂ O | 119.0 | -50 | 0.810 | 4.5 | 0.488 | | | |
| 3-pentanol | C ₅ H ₁₂ O | 115.3 | -8 | 0.821 | 5.1 | 0.463 | | | |
| 2-pentanone | C ₅ H ₁₀ O | 102.3 | -76.9 | 0.809 | 4.3 | 0.321 | | | |
| 3-pentanone | C ₅ H ₁₂ O | 101.7 | -39.8 | 0.814 | 3.4 | 0.265 | | 200 | |
| 1-propanol | C ₃ H ₈ O | 97 | -126 | 0.803 | M | 0.617 | 0.82 | | |
| 2-propanol | C ₃ H ₈ O | 82.4 | -88.5 | 0.785 | M | 0.546 | 0.82 | 400 | 44 |
| pyridine | C ₅ H ₅ N | 115.5 | -42 | 0.982 | M | 0.302 | 0.71 | 5 | 20 |
| tetrahydrofuran (THF) | C ₄ H ₈ O | 66 | -108.4 | 0.886 | 30 | 0.207 | 0.57 | 200 | 200 |
| toluene | C ₇ H ₈ | 110.6 | -93 | 0.867 | 0.05 | 0.099 | 0.29 | 50 | 29 |
| water | H ₂ O | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.998 | M | 1.000 | >>1 | | |
| water, heavy | D ₂ O | 101.3 | 4 | 1.107 | M | 0.991 | | | |
| p-xylene | C ₈ H ₁₀ | 138.3 | 13.3 | 0.861 | 0.02 | 0.074 | 0.26 | 100 | 15 |

1 M = miscible.

2 The values for relative polarity are normalized from measurements of solvent shifts of absorption spectra and were extracted from Christian Reichardt, *Solvents and Solvent Effects in Organic Chemistry*, Wiley-VCH Publishers, 3rd ed., 2003.

3 Snyder's empirical eluant strength parameter for alumina. Extracted from Reichardt, page 495.

4 Threshold limits for exposure. Extracted from Reichardt, pages 501-502.

TABLE 2

| <u>Solvent</u> | formula | boiling point (°C) | melting point (°C) | density (g/mL) | solubility in H ₂ O ¹ (g/100g) | relative polarity² | eluant strength ³ | threshold limits ⁴ (ppm) | vapor pressure ^{20°C} (hPa) |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------|--|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| cyclohexane | C ₆ H ₁₂ | 80.7 | 6.6 | 0.779 | 0.005 | 0.006 | 0.04 | 100 | 104 |
| pentane | C ₅ H ₁₂ | 36.1 | -129.7 | 0.626 | 0.0039 | 0.009 | 0.00 | 600 | 573 |
| hexane | C ₆ H ₁₄ | 69 | -95 | 0.655 | 0.0014 | 0.009 | 0.01 | 50 | 160 |
| heptane | C ₇ H ₁₆ | 98 | -90.6 | 0.684 | 0.0003 | 0.012 | | 400 | 48 |
| carbon tetrachloride | CCl ₄ | 76.7 | -22.4 | 1.594 | 0.08 | 0.052 | 0.18 | 5 | 120 |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|-------|--------|-------|--------|--------------|------|-----|------|
| carbon disulfide | CS ₂ | 46.3 | -111.6 | 1.263 | 0.2 | 0.065 | 0.15 | 10 | 400 |
| <i>p</i> -xylene | C ₈ H ₁₀ | 138.3 | 13.3 | 0.861 | 0.02 | 0.074 | 0.26 | 100 | 15 |
| toluene | C ₇ H ₈ | 110.6 | -93 | 0.867 | 0.05 | 0.099 | 0.24 | 50 | 29 |
| benzene | C ₆ H ₆ | 80.1 | 5.5 | 0.879 | 0.18 | 0.111 | 0.32 | 0.5 | 101 |
| ether | C ₄ H ₁₀ O | 34.6 | -116.3 | 0.713 | 7.5 | 0.117 | 0.38 | 400 | 587 |
| methyl <i>t</i> -butyl ether (MTBE) | C ₅ H ₁₂ O | 55.2 | -109 | 0.741 | 4.8 | 0.124 | 0.20 | | |
| diethylamine | C ₄ H ₁₁ N | 56.3 | -48 | 0.706 | M | 0.145 | 0.63 | 5 | 260 |
| dioxane | C ₄ H ₈ O ₂ | 101.1 | 11.8 | 1.033 | M | 0.164 | 0.56 | 20 | 41 |
| N,N-dimethylaniline | C ₈ H ₁₁ N | 194.2 | 2.4 | 0.956 | 0.14 | 0.179 | | | |
| chlorobenzene | C ₆ H ₅ Cl | 132 | -45.6 | 1.106 | 0.05 | 0.188 | 0.30 | 10 | 12 |
| anisole | C ₇ H ₈ O | 153.7 | -37.5 | 0.996 | 0.10 | 0.198 | | | |
| tetrahydrofuran (THF) | C ₄ H ₈ O | 66 | -108.4 | 0.886 | 30 | 0.207 | 0.57 | 200 | 200 |
| ethyl acetate | C ₄ H ₈ O ₂ | 77 | -83.6 | 0.894 | 8.7 | 0.228 | 0.57 | 400 | 97 |
| ethyl benzoate | C ₉ H ₁₀ O ₂ | 213 | -34.6 | 1.047 | 0.07 | 0.228 | | | |
| dimethoxyethane (glyme) | C ₄ H ₁₀ O ₂ | 85 | -58 | 0.868 | M | 0.231 | | | |
| diglyme | C ₆ H ₁₄ O ₃ | 162 | -64 | 0.945 | M | 0.244 | | | |
| methyl acetate | C ₃ H ₆ O ₂ | 56.9 | -98.1 | 0.933 | 24.4 | 0.253 | | 200 | 220 |
| chloroform | CHCl ₃ | 61.2 | -63.5 | 1.498 | 0.8 | 0.259 | 0.40 | 10 | 210 |
| 3-pentanone | C ₅ H ₁₂ O | 101.7 | -39.8 | 0.814 | 3.4 | 0.265 | | 200 | |
| 1,1-dichloroethane | C ₂ H ₄ Cl ₂ | 57.3 | -97.0 | 1.176 | 0.5 | 0.269 | | 100 | 240 |
| di- <i>n</i> -butyl phthalate | C ₁₆ H ₂₂ O ₄ | 340 | -35 | 1.049 | 0.0011 | 0.272 | | | |
| cyclohexanone | C ₆ H ₁₀ O | 155.6 | -16.4 | 0.948 | 2.3 | 0.281 | | 25 | 5 |
| pyridine | C ₅ H ₅ N | 115.5 | -42 | 0.982 | M | 0.302 | 0.71 | 5 | 20 |
| dimethylphthalate | C ₁₀ H ₁₀ O ₄ | 283.8 | 1 | 1.190 | 0.43 | 0.309 | | | |
| methylene chloride | CH ₂ Cl ₂ | 39.8 | -96.7 | 1.326 | 1.32 | 0.309 | 0.42 | 50 | 475 |
| 2-pentanone | C ₅ H ₁₀ O | 102.3 | -76.9 | 0.809 | 4.3 | 0.321 | | | |
| 2-butanone | C ₄ H ₈ O | 79.6 | -86.3 | 0.805 | 25.6 | 0.327 | 0.51 | 200 | 105 |
| 1,2-dichloroethane | C ₂ H ₄ Cl ₂ | 83.5 | -35.4 | 1.235 | 0.87 | 0.327 | | | |
| benzonitrile | C ₇ H ₅ N | 205 | -13 | 0.996 | 0.2 | 0.333 | | 10 | 12 |
| acetone | C ₃ H ₆ O | 56.2 | -94.3 | 0.786 | M | 0.355 | 0.56 | 500 | 240 |
| dimethylformamide (DMF) | C ₃ H ₇ NO | 153 | -61 | 0.944 | M | 0.386 | | 10 | 3.5 |
| <i>t</i> -butyl alcohol | C ₄ H ₁₀ O | 82.2 | 25.5 | 0.786 | M | 0.389 | | 100 | 41 |
| aniline | C ₆ H ₇ N | 184.4 | -6.0 | 1.022 | 3.4 | 0.420 | | 2 | 0.4 |
| dimethylsulfoxide (DMSO) | C ₂ H ₆ OS | 189 | 18.4 | 1.092 | M | 0.444 | 0.75 | | |
| acetonitrile | C ₂ H ₃ N | 81.6 | -46 | 0.786 | M | 0.460 | 0.65 | 20 | 97 |
| 3-pentanol | C ₅ H ₁₂ O | 115.3 | -8 | 0.821 | 5.1 | 0.463 | | | |
| 2-pentanol | C ₅ H ₁₂ O | 119.0 | -50 | 0.810 | 4.5 | 0.488 | | | |
| 2-butanol | C ₄ H ₁₀ O | 99.5 | -114.7 | 0.808 | 18.1 | 0.506 | | 100 | |
| cyclohexanol | C ₆ H ₁₂ O | 161.1 | 25.2 | 0.962 | 4.2 | 0.509 | | 50 | 1.2 |
| 1-octanol | C ₈ H ₁₈ O | 194.4 | -15 | 0.827 | 0.096 | 0.537 | | | |
| 2-propanol | C ₃ H ₈ O | 82.4 | -88.5 | 0.785 | M | 0.546 | 0.82 | 400 | 44 |
| 1-heptanol | C ₇ H ₁₆ O | 176.4 | -35 | 0.819 | 0.17 | 0.549 | | | |
| <i>i</i> -butanol | C ₄ H ₁₀ O | 107.9 | -108.2 | 0.803 | 8.5 | 0.552 | | | |
| 1-hexanol | C ₆ H ₁₄ O | 158 | -46.7 | 0.814 | 0.59 | 0.559 | | | |
| 1-pentanol | C ₅ H ₁₂ O | 138.0 | -78.2 | 0.814 | 2.2 | 0.568 | | | |
| acetyl acetone | C ₅ H ₈ O ₂ | 140.4 | -23 | 0.975 | 16 | 0.571 | | | |
| ethyl acetoacetate | C ₆ H ₁₀ O ₃ | 180.4 | -80 | 1.028 | 2.9 | 0.577 | | | |
| 1-butanol | C ₄ H ₁₀ O | 117.6 | -89.5 | 0.81 | 7.7 | 0.586 | | 20 | 6.3 |
| benzyl alcohol | C ₇ H ₈ O | 205.4 | -15.3 | 1.042 | 3.5 | 0.608 | | | |
| 1-propanol | C ₃ H ₈ O | 97 | -126 | 0.803 | M | 0.617 | 0.82 | | |
| acetic acid | C ₂ H ₄ O ₂ | 118 | 16.6 | 1.049 | M | 0.648 | >1 | 10 | 15.3 |
| 2-aminoethanol | C ₂ H ₇ NO | 170.9 | 10.5 | 1.018 | M | 0.651 | | 3 | 0.53 |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|---|--------|--------|-------|---|--------------|------|------|-------|
| ethanol | C ₂ H ₆ O | 78.5 | -114.1 | 0.789 | M | 0.654 | 0.88 | 1000 | 59 |
| diethylene glycol | C ₄ H ₁₀ O ₃ | 245 | -10 | 1.118 | M | 0.713 | | | 0.027 |
| methanol | CH ₄ O | 64.6 | -98 | 0.791 | M | 0.762 | 0.95 | 200 | 128 |
| ethylene glycol | C ₂ H ₆ O ₂ | 197 | -13 | 1.115 | M | 0.790 | 1.11 | | |
| glycerin | C ₃ H ₈ O ₃ | 290 | 17.8 | 1.261 | M | 0.812 | | | |
| water, heavy | D ₂ O | 101.3 | 4 | 1.107 | M | 0.991 | | | |
| water | H ₂ O | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.998 | M | 1.000 | >>1 | | |

Spectra (of solvents and other compounds)

1. ir, nmr, mass spectra

Aldrich - <http://www.sigmaaldrich.com/>

NIMC site - http://riodb01.ibase.aist.go.jp/sdbs/cgi-bin/cre_index.cgi?lang=eng

RSC - <http://www.rsc.org/education/teachers/learnnet/spectra/index2.htm>

2. ir, mass spectra, uv-vis

NIST site - <http://webbook.nist.gov/chemistry/>

3. ir

Acros - http://www.acros.com/portal/alias_Rainbow/lang_en/tabID_21/DesktopDefault.aspx

ChemExper Chem Directory - <http://www.chemexper.com/>

4. nmr

human metabolites - <http://hmdb.ca/> (also some mass spectra)

bioorganics - <http://mmcd.nmrfam.wisc.edu/mmcdbrowse.html>

Solvents - <http://www.alsnotebook.com/chlorformtraces.html>

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