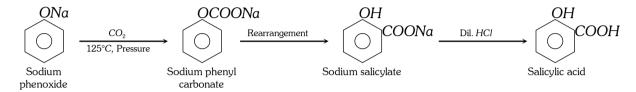
Salicylic acid is present in many essential oils in the form of esters. Oil of winter green is a methyl ester of salicylic acid.

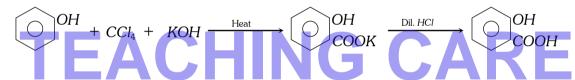
(1) Methods of preparation

(i) Kolbe Schmidt reaction



It is a commercial method. The reaction yields both o- and p- isomers. Salicylic acid is more volatile and separated by steam distillation.

(ii) Reimer-Tiemann reaction



(iii) From benzene derivatives

(a)
$$Cl$$
 $COOH$
 O -Chlorobenzoic acid

Fuse with
 $NaOH$
 O -COOH

(b)
$$SO_3K$$
 Fuse with OH COOH O -Sulphobenzoic acid

(c)
$$OH \atop CH_2OH$$
 + $OH \atop Acid$ $OH \atop COOH$

(d)
$$OH \\ CH_3$$
 + $OH \\ COOH$

(e)
$$NH_2$$
 $NaNO_2/HCl$ $O^{\circ}C$ N_2Cl N_2Cl $O^{\circ}C$ OOH OOH OOH

(2) Physical properties

- (i) It is a colourless needle shaped crystalline compound.
- (ii) Its m.p. is 156°C.
- (iii) It is sparingly soluble in cold water but readily soluble in hot water, alcohol, ether and chloroform.
- (iv) It is steam volatile.
- (v) It is poisonous in nature. However, its derivative used in medicine internally and externally as antipyretic and antiseptic.

(3) Chemical properties

(i) Reaction with Na₂CO₃, NaHCO₃ or NaOH

Salicylic acid

$$C - OH$$
 $Aq. Na_2CO_3$
 OH
 $Aq. Na_2CO_3$
 OH
 OH

(ii) Reaction with alcohols or phenols

Methyl salicylate is an oily liquid (oil of winter green) with pleasant material. It is also used in medicine in the treatment of rheumatic pain and as a remedy for aches, sprains and bruises. It is used in perfumery and as a flavouring. It is used for making of iodex.

Salol is a white solid m.pt. 43°C. It is a good internal antiseptic. It is used in making of toothpastes. Salol absorbs ultraviolet light and its main use now is sun-screening agent and stabiliser of plastics.

(iii) **Decarboxylation**

(iv) Acetylation

Note: * Aspirin is a white solid, melting point 135°C. It is used as antipyretic and pain killer (analgesic action).

(v) Reaction with ferric chloride solution

(vi) Reaction with PCI₅

$$\begin{array}{c|c} OH & & Cl \\ \hline COOH & & COCl \\ \hline Salicylic acid & o-Chlorobenzoyl chloride \\ \end{array}$$

(vii) **Bromination**

$$\begin{array}{c} OH \\ OH \\ \hline \\ COOH \\ \end{array}$$
Salicylic acid
$$\begin{array}{c} OH \\ Br_2 \text{ water} \\ \hline \\ Br \end{array}$$

2,4,6,-Tribromophenol

(viii) Nitration

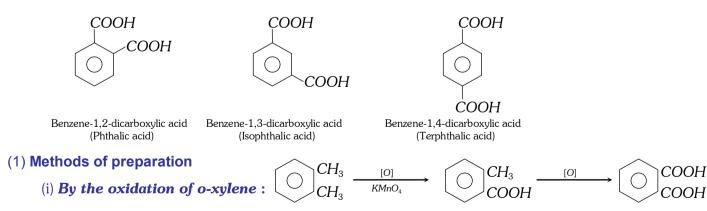


2,4,6,-Trinitrophenol

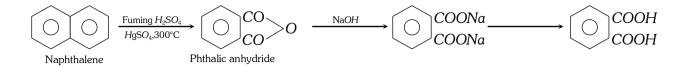
Phthalic acid

Phthalic acid [1,2,-Benzene dicarboxylic acid]

There are three isomer (ortho, meta, para) of benzene dicarboxylic acid.



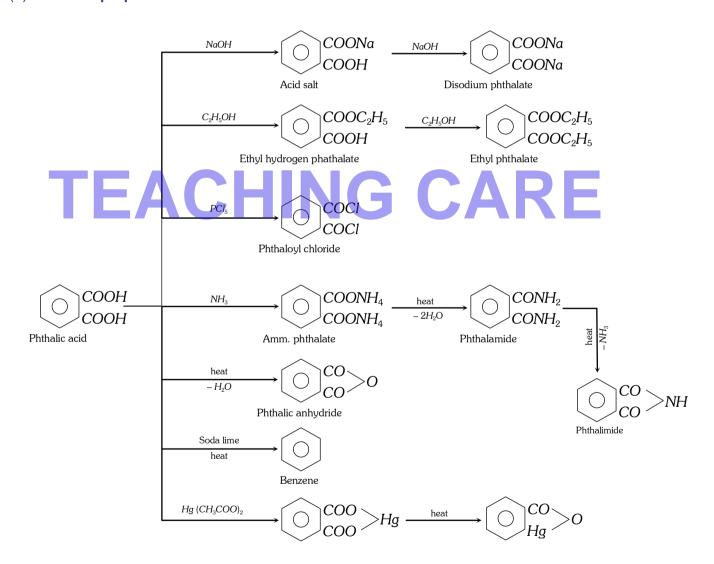
(ii) From naphthalene (Industrial method): It is known as aerial oxidation.



(2) Physical properties

- (i) It is colourless crystalline compound.
- (ii) Its melting point is not sharp (195–213°C).
- (iii) It is sparingly soluble in cold water but soluble in hot water, alcohol, ether, benzene etc.

(3) Chemical properties



(4) **Uses**: It is used in the manufacture of plastics, dyes and other compounds such as phthalic anhydride, phthalimide, anthraquinone and fluorescein etc.