

Alkanes

Chemistry

Saturated hydrocarbons, and why they are so unreactive.

The homologous series, general formula C_nH_{2n+2} .

n	Name	Formula
1	Methane	CH_4
2	Ethane	C_2H_6
3	Propane	C_3H_8
4	Butane	C_4H_{10}
5	Pentane	C_5H_{12}
6	Hexane	C_6H_{14}

Free-radical substitution with halogens needs UV light: initiation, propagation, termination. It gives a mixture of products.