

Identifying Organic Compounds

Chemistry

The tests, in the order to apply them.

Test and positive result.

Test	Positive for	Result
Bromine water	Alkene	Decolourises
Sodium carbonate	Carboxylic acid	Effervescence
2,4-DNPH	Aldehyde or ketone	Orange precipitate
Tollens' reagent	Aldehyde only	Silver mirror
Fehling's	Aldehyde only	Red precipitate
Iodoform	Methyl ketone or $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}(\text{OH})-$	Yellow precipitate
Acidified dichromate	1° or 2° alcohol	Orange → green

2,4-DNPH identifies a carbonyl; Tollens' then distinguishes aldehyde from ketone. Use them in that order.