

# Cyclohexane

**Cyclohexane** is a cycloalkane with the molecular formula C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>12</sub>. Cyclohexane is non-polar. Cyclohexane is a colourless, flammable liquid with a distinctive detergent-like odor, reminiscent of cleaning products (in which it is sometimes used). Cyclohexane is mainly used for the industrial production of adipic acid and caprolactam, which are precursors to nylon.<sup>[5]</sup>

**Cyclohexyl** (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>11</sub>) is the alkyl substituent of cyclohexane and is abbreviated **Cy**.<sup>[6]</sup>

## Contents

### Production

Modern production

Historical methods

Early failures

Success

### Reactions and uses

Laboratory solvent and other niche uses

### Conformation

Solid phases

### See also

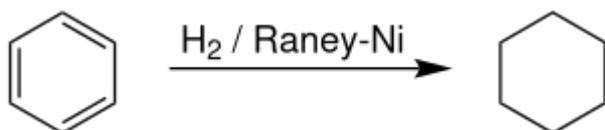
### References

### External links

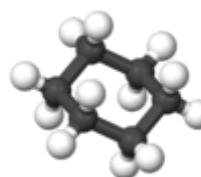
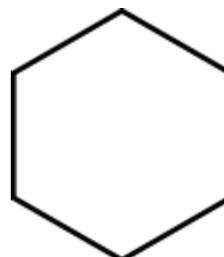
## Production

### Modern production

On an industrial scale, cyclohexane is produced by hydrogenation of benzene in the presence of a Raney nickel catalyst.<sup>[7]</sup> Producers of cyclohexane account for approximately 11.4% of global demand for benzene.<sup>[8]</sup> The reaction is highly exothermic, with  $\Delta H(500\text{ K}) = -216.37\text{ kJ/mol}$ . Dehydrogenation commenced noticeably above 300 °C, reflecting the favorable entropy for dehydrogenation.<sup>[9]</sup>



## Cyclohexane



### Names

Preferred IUPAC name

Cyclohexane<sup>[2]</sup>

Other names

Hexanaphthene (archaic)<sup>[1]</sup>

### Identifiers

CAS Number

110-82-7 ([https://commonchemistry.cas.org/detail?cas\\_rn=110-82-7](https://commonchemistry.cas.org/detail?cas_rn=110-82-7))<sup>✓</sup>

3D model (JSmol)

Interactive image (<https://chemapps.stolaf.edu/jmol/jmol.php?model=C1CCC1>)

3DMet

B04304 ([http://www.3dmet.dna.afrc.go.jp/cgi/show\\_data.php?acc=B04304](http://www.3dmet.dna.afrc.go.jp/cgi/show_data.php?acc=B04304))

Beilstein Reference

1900225

ChEBI

CHEBI:29005 (<https://www.ebi.ac.uk/chebi/search1>)

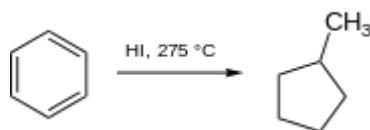
## Historical methods

Unlike benzene, cyclohexane is not found in natural resources such as coal. For this reason, early investigators synthesized their cyclohexane samples.<sup>[10]</sup>

### Early failures

- In 1867 Marcellin Berthelot reduced benzene with hydroiodic acid at elevated temperatures.<sup>[11][12]</sup>
- In 1870, Adolf von Baeyer repeated the reaction<sup>[13]</sup> and pronounced the same reaction product "hexahydrobenzene"
- in 1890 Vladimir Markovnikov believed he was able to distill the same compound from Caucasus petroleum, calling his concoction "hexanaphtene".

Surprisingly, their cyclohexanes boiled higher by 10 °C than either hexahydrobenzene or hexanaphtene, but this riddle was solved in 1895 by Markovnikov, N.M. Kishner, and Nikolay Zelinsky when they reassigned "hexahydrobenzene" and "hexanaphtene" as methylcyclopentane, the result of an unexpected rearrangement reaction.



### Success

In 1894, Baeyer synthesized cyclohexane starting with a ketonization of pimelic acid followed by multiple reductions:

	<a href="#">d.do?chebild=29005</a> ✓
<a href="#">ChEMBL</a>	<a href="#">ChEMBL15980</a> ( <a href="https://www.ebi.ac.uk/chembl/db/index.php/component/inspect/ChEMBL15980">https://www.ebi.ac.uk/chembl/db/index.php/component/inspect/ChEMBL15980</a> ) ✓
<a href="#">ChemSpider</a>	7787 ( <a href="http://www.chemspider.com/Chemical-Structure.7787.html">http://www.chemspider.com/Chemical-Structure.7787.html</a> ) ✓
<a href="#">DrugBank</a>	DB03561 ( <a href="https://www.drugbank.ca/drugs/DB03561">https://www.drugbank.ca/drugs/DB03561</a> ) ✓
<a href="#">ECHA InfoCard</a>	100.003.461 ( <a href="https://echa.europa.eu/substance-information/-/substanceinfo/100.003.461">https://echa.europa.eu/substance-information/-/substanceinfo/100.003.461</a> )
<a href="#">Gmelin Reference</a>	1662
<a href="#">KEGG</a>	C11249 ( <a href="https://www.kegg.jp/entry/C11249">https://www.kegg.jp/entry/C11249</a> ) ✓
<a href="#">PubChem CID</a>	8078 ( <a href="https://pubchem.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/compound/8078">https://pubchem.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/compound/8078</a> )
<a href="#">RTECS number</a>	GU6300000
<a href="#">UNII</a>	48K5MKG32S ( <a href="https://fdasis.nlm.nih.gov/srs/srdirect.jsp?regno=48K5MKG32S">https://fdasis.nlm.nih.gov/srs/srdirect.jsp?regno=48K5MKG32S</a> ) ✓
<a href="#">UN number</a>	1145
<a href="#">CompTox Dashboard (EPA)</a>	DTXSID4021923 ( <a href="https://comptox.epa.gov/dashboard/DTXSID4021923">https://comptox.epa.gov/dashboard/DTXSID4021923</a> )

**InChI**

InChI=1S/C6H12/c1-2-4-6-5-3-1/h1-6H2 ✓  
Key: XDTMQSROBMDMFD-UHFFFAOYSA-N ✓

InChI=1/C6H12/c1-2-4-6-5-3-1/h1-6H2  
Key: XDTMQSROBMDMFD-UHFFFAOYAZ

**SMILES**

C1CCCCC1

**Properties**

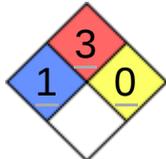
<u>Chemical formula</u>	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>12</sub>
<u>Molar mass</u>	84.162 g·mol <sup>-1</sup>
<u>Appearance</u>	Colorless liquid
<u>Odor</u>	Sweet, <u>gasoline-like</u>
<u>Density</u>	0.7739 g/mL, liquid; Density = 0.996 g/mL, solid
<u>Melting point</u>	6.47 °C (43.65 °F; 279.62 K)
<u>Boiling point</u>	80.74 °C (177.33 °F; 353.89 K)
<u>Solubility in water</u>	Immiscible
<u>Solubility</u>	Soluble in ether, alcohol, <u>acetone</u>
<u>Vapor pressure</u>	78 mmHg (20 °C) <sup>[3]</sup>
<u>Magnetic susceptibility (χ)</u>	-68.13·10 <sup>-6</sup> cm <sup>3</sup> /mol
<u>Refractive index (n<sub>D</sub>)</u>	1.42662
<u>Viscosity</u>	1.02 cP at 17 °C

**Thermochemistry**

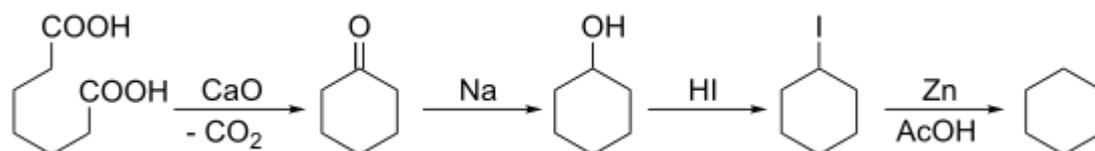
<u>Std enthalpy of formation</u> ( $\Delta_f H^\ominus_{298}$ )	-156 kJ/mol
<u>Std enthalpy of combustion</u> ( $\Delta_c H^\ominus_{298}$ )	-3920 kJ/mol

**Hazards**

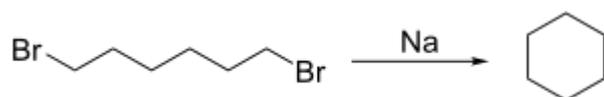
<u>Safety data sheet</u>	See: <i>data page</i>
<u>GHS pictograms</u>	

	
GHS Signal word	<b>Danger</b>
GHS hazard statements	H225, H304, H315, H336
GHS precautionary statements	P210, P233, P240, P241, P242, P243, P261, P264, P271, P273, P280, P301+310, P302+352, P303+361+353, P304+340, P312, P321, P331, P332+313, P362, P370+378, P391, P403+233, P403+235, P405
<b>NFPA 704</b> (fire diamond)	
Flash point	-20 °C (-4 °F; 253 K)
Autoignition temperature	245 °C (473 °F; 518 K)
Explosive limits	1.3–8% <sup>[3]</sup>
Lethal dose or concentration (LD, LC):	
LD <sub>50</sub> (median dose)	12705 mg/kg (rat, oral) 813 mg/kg (mouse, oral) <sup>[4]</sup>
LC <sub>Lo</sub> (lowest published)	17,142 ppm (mouse, 2 h) 26,600 ppm (rabbit, 1 h) <sup>[4]</sup>

<b>NIOSH</b> (US health exposure limits):	
<u>PEL</u> (Permissible)	TWA 300 ppm (1050 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) <sup>[3]</sup>
<u>REL</u> (Recommended)	TWA 300 ppm (1050 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) <sup>[3]</sup>
<u>IDLH</u> (Immediate danger)	1300 ppm <sup>[3]</sup>
<b>Related compounds</b>	
Related cycloalkanes	<u>Cyclopentane</u> <u>Cycloheptane</u>
Related compounds	<u>Cyclohexene</u> <u>Benzene</u>
<b>Supplementary data page</b>	
<u>Structure and properties</u>	<u>Refractive index</u> ( <i>n</i> ), <u>Dielectric constant</u> ( $\epsilon_r$ ), etc.
<u>Thermodynamic data</u>	<u>Phase behaviour</u> solid–liquid–gas
<u>Spectral data</u>	<u>UV</u> , <u>IR</u> , <u>NMR</u> , <u>MS</u>
Except where otherwise noted, data are given for materials in their standard state (at 25 °C [77 °F], 100 kPa). ✓ verify (what is ✓✗ ?) <a href="#">Infobox references</a>	



In the same year, E. Haworth and W.H. Perkin Jr. (1860–1929) prepared it via a Wurtz reaction of 1,6-dibromohexane.



## Reactions and uses

Although rather unreactive, cyclohexane undergoes catalytic oxidation to produce cyclohexanone and cyclohexanol. The cyclohexanone–cyclohexanol mixture, called "*KA oil*", is a raw material for adipic acid and caprolactam, precursors to nylon. Several million kilograms of cyclohexanone and cyclohexanol are produced

annually.<sup>[9]</sup>

## Laboratory solvent and other niche uses

It is used as a solvent in some brands of correction fluid. Cyclohexane is sometimes used as a non-polar organic solvent, although n-hexane is more widely used for this purpose. It is frequently used as a recrystallization solvent, as many organic compounds exhibit good solubility in hot cyclohexane and poor solubility at low temperatures.

Cyclohexane is also used for calibration of differential scanning calorimetry (DSC) instruments, because of a convenient crystal-crystal transition at  $-87.1\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ .<sup>[14]</sup>

Cyclohexane vapour is used in vacuum carburizing furnaces, in heat treating equipment manufacture.

## Conformation

---

The 6-vertex edge ring does not conform to the shape of a perfect hexagon. The conformation of a flat 2D planar hexagon has considerable angle strain because its bonds are not  $109.5$  degrees; the torsional strain would also be considerable because all of the bonds would be eclipsed bonds. Therefore, to reduce torsional strain, cyclohexane adopts a three-dimensional structure known as the chair conformation, which rapidly interconvert at room temperature via a process known as a chair flip. During the chair flip, there are three other intermediate conformations that are encountered: the half-chair, which is the most unstable conformation, the more stable boat conformation, and the twist-boat, which is more stable than the boat but still much less stable than the chair. The chair and twist-boat are energy minima and are therefore conformers, while the half-chair and the boat are transition states and represent energy maxima. The idea that the chair conformation is the most stable structure for cyclohexane was first proposed as early as 1890 by Hermann Sachse, but only gained widespread acceptance much later. The new conformation puts the carbons at an angle of  $109.5^{\circ}$ . Half of the hydrogens are in the plane of the ring (*equatorial*) while the other half are perpendicular to the plane (*axial*). This conformation allows for the most stable structure of cyclohexane. Another conformation of cyclohexane exists, known as boat conformation, but it interconverts to the slightly more stable chair formation. If cyclohexane is mono-substituted with a large substituent, then the substituent will most likely be found attached in an equatorial position, as this is the slightly more stable conformation.

Cyclohexane has the lowest angle and torsional strain of all the cycloalkanes; as a result cyclohexane has been deemed a 0 in total ring strain.

## Solid phases

Cyclohexane has two crystalline phases. The high-temperature phase I, stable between 186 K and the melting point 280 K, is a plastic crystal, which means the molecules retain some rotational degree of freedom. The low-temperature (below 186 K) phase II is ordered. Two other low-temperature (metastable) phases III and IV have been obtained by application of moderate pressures above 30 MPa, where phase IV appears exclusively in deuterated cyclohexane (application of pressure increases the values of all transition temperatures).<sup>[15]</sup>

Cyclohexane phases<sup>[15]</sup>

No	Symmetry	Space group	a (Å)	b (Å)	c (Å)	Z	T (K)	P (MPa)
I	Cubic	Fm3m	8.61			4	195	0.1
II	Monoclinic	C2/c	11.23	6.44	8.20	4	115	0.1
III	Orthorhombic	Pmnn	6.54	7.95	5.29	2	235	30
IV	Monoclinic	P12(1)/n1	6.50	7.64	5.51	4	160	37

Here Z is the number structure units per unit cell; the unit cell constants a, b and c were measured at the given temperature T and pressure P.

## See also

---

- [The Flixborough disaster](#), a major industrial accident caused by an explosion of cyclohexane.
- [Hexane](#)
- [Ring flip](#)
- [Cyclohexane \(data page\)](#)

## References

---

1. Hexanaphthene (<http://www.dictionary.com/browse/hexanaphthene>) Archived (<https://web.archive.org/web/20180212201838/http://www.dictionary.com/browse/hexanaphthene>) 2018-02-12 at the [Wayback Machine](#), dictionary.com
2. "Front Matter". *Nomenclature of Organic Chemistry : IUPAC Recommendations and Preferred Names 2013 (Blue Book)*. Cambridge: The Royal Society of Chemistry. 2014. pp. P001–P004. doi:10.1039/9781849733069-FP001 (<https://doi.org/10.1039%2F9781849733069-FP001>). ISBN 978-0-85404-182-4.
3. NIOSH Pocket Guide to Chemical Hazards. "#0163" (<https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/npg/npgd0163.html>). National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH).
4. "Cyclohexane" (<https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/idlh/110827.html>). *Immediately Dangerous to Life or Health Concentrations (IDLH)*. National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH).
5. Campbell, M. Larry (2011). "Cyclohexane". *Ullmann's Encyclopedia of Industrial Chemistry*. doi:10.1002/14356007.a08\_209.pub2 ([https://doi.org/10.1002%2F14356007.a08\\_209.pub2](https://doi.org/10.1002%2F14356007.a08_209.pub2)). ISBN 978-3527306732.
6. "Standard Abbreviations and Acronyms" ([http://pubs.acs.org/paragonplus/submission/joceah/joceah\\_abbreviations.pdf](http://pubs.acs.org/paragonplus/submission/joceah/joceah_abbreviations.pdf)) (PDF). The Journal of Organic Chemistry.
7. Fred Fan Zhang, Thomas van Rijnman, Ji Soo Kim, Allen Cheng "On Present Methods of Hydrogenation of Aromatic Compounds, 1945 to Present Day" Lunds Tekniska Högskola 2008
8. Ceresana. "Benzene - Study: Market, Analysis, Trends 2021 - Ceresana" (<http://www.ceresana.com/en/market-studies/chemicals/benzene/>). *www.ceresana.com*. Archived (<https://web.archive.org/web/20171221002731/http://www.ceresana.com/en/market-studies/chemicals/benzene/>) from the original on 21 December 2017. Retrieved 4 May 2018.
9. Michael Tuttle Musser (2005). "Cyclohexanol and Cyclohexanone". *Ullmann's Encyclopedia of Industrial Chemistry*. Weinheim: Wiley-VCH. doi:10.1002/14356007.a08\_217 ([https://doi.org/10.1002%2F14356007.a08\\_217](https://doi.org/10.1002%2F14356007.a08_217)). ISBN 978-3527306732.
10. Warnhoff, E. W. (1996). "The Curiously Intertwined Histories of Benzene and Cyclohexane". *J. Chem. Educ.* **73** (6): 494. Bibcode:1996JChEd..73..494W (<https://ui.adsabs.harvard.edu/abs/1996JChEd..73..494W>). doi:10.1021/ed073p494 (<https://doi.org/10.1021%2Fed073p494>).

11. Bertholet (1867) "Nouvelles applications des méthodes de réduction en chimie organique" (<https://books.google.com/books?id=YVgSAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA53#v=onepage&q&f=false>) (New applications of reduction methods in organic chemistry), *Bulletin de la Société chimique de Paris*, series 2, 7 : 53-65.
12. Bertholet (1868) "Méthode universelle pour réduire et saturer d'hydrogène les composés organiques" (Universal method for reducing and saturating organic compounds with hydrogen), *Bulletin de la Société chimique de Paris*, series 2, 9 : 8-31. From page 17: (<https://books.google.com/books?id=r1sSAAAAYAAJ&vq=Bertholet&pg=PA17#v=onepage&q&f=false>) "En effet, la benzine, chauffée à 280° pendant 24 heures avec 80 fois son poids d'une solution aqueuse saturée à froid d'acide iodhydrique, se change à peu près entièrement en hydrure d'hexylène,  $C_{12}H_{14}$ , en fixant 4 fois son volume d'hydrogène:  $C_{12}H_6 + 4H_2 = C_{12}H_{14}$  ... Le nouveau carbure formé par la benzine est un corps unique et défini: il bout à 69°, et offre toutes les propriétés et la composition de l'hydrure d'hexylène extrait des pétroles." (In effect, benzene, heated to 280° for 24 hours with 80 times its weight of an aqueous solution of cold saturated hydroiodic acid, is changed almost entirely into hydride of hexylene,  $C_{12}H_{14}$ , [Note: this formula for hexane ( $C_6H_{14}$ ) is wrong because chemists at that time used the incorrect atomic mass for carbon.] by fixing [i.e., combining with] 4 times its volume of hydrogen:  $C_{12}H_6 + 4H_2 = C_{12}H_{14}$  ... The new carbon compound formed by benzene is a unique and well-defined substance: it boils at 69° and presents all the properties and the composition of hydride of hexylene extracted from oil.)
13. Adolf Baeyer (1870) "Ueber die Reduktion aromatischer Kohlenwasserstoffe durch Jodphosphonium" (<https://books.google.com/books?id=RJU8AAAIAAJ&pg=PA266#v=onepage&q&f=false>) (On the reduction of aromatic compound by phosphonium iodide [ $H_4IP$ ]), *Annalen der Chemie und Pharmacie*, 155 : 266-281. From page 279: "Bei der Reduktion mit Natriumamalgam oder Jodphosphonium addiren sich im höchsten Falle sechs Atome Wasserstoff, und es entstehen Abkömmlinge, die sich von einem Kohlenwasserstoff  $C_6H_{12}$  ableiten. Dieser Kohlenwasserstoff ist aller Wahrscheinlichkeit nach ein geschlossener Ring, da seine Derivate, das Hexahydromesitylen und Hexahydromellithsäure, mit Leichtigkeit wieder in Benzolabkömmlinge übergeführt werden können." (During the reduction [of benzene] with sodium amalgam or phosphonium iodide, six atoms of hydrogen are added in the extreme case, and there arise derivatives, which derive from a hydrocarbon  $C_6H_{12}$ . This hydrocarbon is in all probability a closed ring, since its derivatives — hexahydromesitylene [1,3,5 - trimethyl cyclohexane] and hexahydromellithic acid [cyclohexane-1,2,3,4,5,6-hexacarboxylic acid] — can be converted with ease again into benzene derivatives.)
14. Price, D. M. (1995). "Temperature Calibration of Differential Scanning Calorimeters". *Journal of Thermal Analysis*. 45 (6): 1285–1296. doi:10.1007/BF02547423 (<https://doi.org/10.1007%2FBF02547423>).
15. Mayer, J.; Urban, S.; Habrylo, S.; Holderna, K.; Natkaniec, I.; Würflinger, A.; Zajac, W. (1991). "Neutron Scattering Studies of  $C_6H_{12}$  and  $C_6D_{12}$  Cyclohexane under High Pressure". *Physica Status Solidi B*. 166 (2): 381. Bibcode:1991PSSBR.166..381M (<https://ui.adsabs.harvard.edu/abs/1991PSSBR.166..381M>). doi:10.1002/pssb.2221660207 (<https://doi.org/10.1002%2Fpssb.2221660207>).

## External links

---

- International Chemical Safety Card 0242 (<http://www.inchem.org/documents/icsc/icsc/eics0242.htm>)
- National Pollutant Inventory – Cyclohexane fact sheet (<https://web.archive.org/web/20060819025512/http://npi.gov.au/database/substance-info/profiles/30.html>)
- NIOSH Pocket Guide to Chemical Hazards (<https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/npg/npgd0163.html>)
- Cyclohexane@3Dchem (<http://www.3dchem.com/molecules.asp?ID=176>)

- [Hermann Sachse \(https://web.archive.org/web/20100707214900/http://www.chem.yale.edu/~chem125/125/history/Baeyer/Sachse.html\)](https://web.archive.org/web/20100707214900/http://www.chem.yale.edu/~chem125/125/history/Baeyer/Sachse.html) and the first suggestion of a chair conformation.
- [NLM Hazardous Substances Databank – Cyclohexane \(http://toxnet.nlm.nih.gov/cgi-bin/sis/search/r?dbs+hsdb:@term+@na+Cyclohexane\)](http://toxnet.nlm.nih.gov/cgi-bin/sis/search/r?dbs+hsdb:@term+@na+Cyclohexane)
- [Methanol Discovered in Space \(https://web.archive.org/web/20060409110115/http://www.labnews.co.uk/new\\_labnews/article.php?artid=1017&categoryid=2&scheme=2\)](https://web.archive.org/web/20060409110115/http://www.labnews.co.uk/new_labnews/article.php?artid=1017&categoryid=2&scheme=2)
- [Calculation of vapor pressure \(http://ddbonline.ddbst.de/AntoineCalculation/AntoineCalculationCGI.exe?component=Cyclohexane\)](http://ddbonline.ddbst.de/AntoineCalculation/AntoineCalculationCGI.exe?component=Cyclohexane), [liquid density \(http://ddbonline.ddbst.de/DIPPR105DensityCalculation/DIPPR105CalculationCGI.exe?component=Cyclohexane\)](http://ddbonline.ddbst.de/DIPPR105DensityCalculation/DIPPR105CalculationCGI.exe?component=Cyclohexane), [dynamic liquid viscosity \(http://ddbonline.ddbst.de/VogelCalculation/VogelCalculationCGI.exe?component=Cyclohexane\)](http://ddbonline.ddbst.de/VogelCalculation/VogelCalculationCGI.exe?component=Cyclohexane), [surface tension \(http://ddbonline.ddbst.de/DIPPR106SFTCalculation/DIPPR106SFTCalculationCGI.exe?component=Cyclohexane\)](http://ddbonline.ddbst.de/DIPPR106SFTCalculation/DIPPR106SFTCalculationCGI.exe?component=Cyclohexane) of cyclohexane
- [Cyclohexane production process flowsheet, benzene hydrogenation technique \(http://processflowsheet.com/cyclohexane-production-by-benzene-hydrogenation/\)](http://processflowsheet.com/cyclohexane-production-by-benzene-hydrogenation/)

---

Retrieved from "<https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Cyclohexane&oldid=1014263341>"

---

**This page was last edited on 26 March 2021, at 02:20 (UTC).**

Text is available under the Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike License; additional terms may apply. By using this site, you agree to the Terms of Use and Privacy Policy. Wikipedia® is a registered trademark of the Wikimedia Foundation, Inc., a non-profit organization.