

Reaction

REACTANTS: Acyl Chloride and Alcohol **PRODUCT:** Ester and HCl **REACTION TYPE:** Nucleophilic Addition-Elimination, *Esterification*



Mechanism

The alcohol acts as a **nucleophile** due to the lone pair of electrons on the oxygen atom attacking the carbon (with a partial positive charge) in the acyl chloride group. A new carbon-oxygen bond forms between the acyl group and the alcohol. The carbon-oxygen double bond breaks to a single bond, giving the oxygen a negative charge. The carbon-oxygen double bond reforms, the carbon-chlorine bond breaks and a chloride ion is removed. Chloride ion removes H^+ ion from -RCOOH+R¹ group, forming RCOOR¹. *Addition-elimination reaction.*



Notes:

• As an ester is formed, this is an example of an esterification reaction

