



A compound containing a carbonyl group (C=O)

In **organic chemistry**, a **carbonyl group** is a **functional group** composed of a **carbon atom double-bonded** to an **oxygen** atom:  $C=O$ . It is common to several classes of organic compounds, as part of many larger functional groups. A compound containing a carbonyl group is often referred to as a carbonyl compound.

The term carbonyl can also refer to **carbon monoxide** as a **ligand** in an **inorganic** or **organometallic** complex (a **metal carbonyl**, e.g. **nickel carbonyl**).

The remainder of this article concerns itself with the organic chemistry definition of carbonyl, where carbon and oxygen share a double bond.