
Volume Editor's Preface

Shortly after the publication of *Science of Synthesis*, Vol. 34 (Fluorine), this volume now adds the synthesis of chloroalkanes, bromoalkanes, and iodoalkanes and so completes the coverage of the haloorganics. This is an important class of intermediates, especially for nucleophilic displacement reactions and elimination reactions. Moreover, there are important applications of haloalkanes in organic materials such as PVC. In addition, halogen substitution is used quite often to achieve biological activity, as in some biocides, or to fine-tune the performance of a drug.

The chemistry presented in this volume is extensively reviewed in *Houben-Weyl*, Vols. 5/3 (1962) and 5/4 (1960). The authors of Vol. 35 have done an excellent job in extracting still-valuable information from the old sources and adding to it new developments, including improved methods or introduction of novel reagent systems. So today we have a flexible arsenal to secure haloalkane synthesis avoiding rearrangement, premature elimination, or other secondary reactions. Moreover, in most cases high stereoselectivity can be achieved. Authors and editor are glad to include all these methods in this volume.

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Volume Editor

Ernst Schaumann

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