

PART ONE

This book contains 19 chapters. Chapters 10–19, which make up Part 2, are directly concerned with organic reactions and their mechanisms. Chapters 1–9 may be thought of as an introduction to Part 2. The first five chapters deal with the structure of organic compounds. These chapters discuss the kinds of bonding important in organic chemistry, the three-dimensional structure of organic molecules, and the structure of species in which the valence of carbon is less than 4. Chapters 6–9 are concerned with other topics that help to form a background to Part 2: acids and bases, photochemistry, the relationship between structure and reactivity, and a general discussion of mechanisms and the means by which they are determined.