

Questions

1. What other organic compounds can be oxidized to produce benzoic acid?
2. Why is it important that all the permanganate is consumed in this oxidation reaction?
3. Potassium permanganate is a very powerful oxidizing agent that will even oxidize carbon–carbon double bonds to diols or carboxylic acids. Why are the double bonds in the benzene ring not attacked?
4. Why is this oxidation performed under basic conditions?
5. Find three products at the store that contain benzoic acid or sodium benzoate.