

## Answer on Question #43822 - Chemistry - Inorganic Chemistry

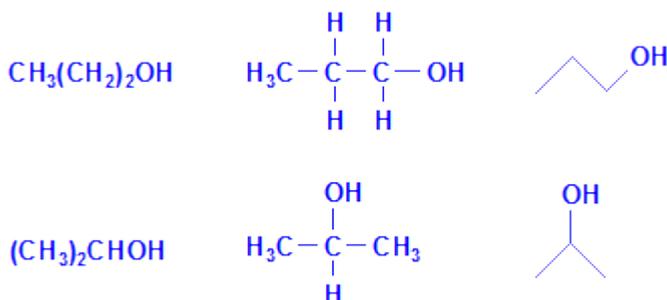
### Question:

How are 1-propanol and 2-propanol different from each other?

### Answer:

There are two propanols, n-propanol and iso-propanol.

N-propanol is also known as 1-propanol and propane-1-ol, and iso-propanol is known as 2-propanol and propane-2-ol. In the formulae below, the three graphics on the top line are different ways of writing the formula for n-propanol, and the three on the bottom line, of writing iso-propanol.



Isopropanol has been quite commonly used when ethanol or methylated spirits cannot be used for some reason, and it is just about as effective a dehydrant. It is not drinkable, but it is of relatively low toxicity, so much so that it is sometimes used in cosmetics and other materials sold for use in the home, including the "rubbing alcohol" used to clean new born babies' umbilical cords.

1-Propanol is thought to be similar to ethanol in its effects on human body, but 2-4 times more potent. It is metabolized into propionic acid. Effects include alcoholic intoxication and high anion gap metabolic acidosis.

1-propanol has high octane numbers and it is suitable to engine fuel usage. However, production of propanol has been too expensive to be a common fuel.