



# Lipids

Function in long-term, concentrated <u>energy storage</u>, membrane formation, chemical messaging, and hydrophobic barriers creation.



FAT



### Lipids

- Lipids are composed of C, H, O just like carbohydrates but have much fewer O compared to the number of C and H.
  - Different proportions and combined in a different structure
    - They have long hydrocarbon chains
    - Do not form true polymers
      - They are <u>not</u> a continuous chain of monomers
    - They are big molecules made of smaller subunits but <u>not big enough</u> to be macromolecules
  - Very different biological
     properties

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Example: Triglyceride (Fat)				

### Lipids

Lipids are defined by their <u>poor</u> <u>ability to mix with water</u> due to the non-polar hydrocarbon chains.

- "Family groups"
  - Fats
  - Phospholipids
  - <u>Steroids</u>
  - Waxes
  - <u>Certain Pigments</u>

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ample: Triglyceride (E				

## Fats

### Structure:

- 1 glycerol + 3 fatty acid molecules
  - <u>Glycerol</u> = 3 C alcohol containing 3 -OH groups
  - <u>fatty acid</u> = <u>long</u> hydrocarbon "tail" (often 16 -18 C) with carboxyl (COOH) group "head"



### Fats

- Fatty acids are combined with glycerol through dehydration synthesis reactions.
- Requires an Enzymes



# Building Fats Triacylglycerol (a.k.a. triglyceride or fat) 3 fatty acids linked to glycerol 1 nvolves the making of 3 ester bonds Ester linkage Image: Im







- Composed of saturated fatty acids bonded to glycerol
- Carbons of the fatty acid tails are bonded to maximum number of H's
- No C=C double bonds
  - Iong, straight chain
  - most animal fats

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solid at room temp.

### Tails can pack together tightly.

 contributes to cardiovascular disease (atherosclerosis)
 <u>plaque deposits in</u> arteries













### Making saturated fats artificially

- Hydrogenated vegetable oil (as in commercial peanut butters where a <u>solid</u> <u>consistency is sought</u>) started out as "good" unsaturated oil.
- However, this commercial product has had all the double bonds artificially broken and hydrogens artificially added to turn it into saturated fat that bears no resemblance to the original oil from which it came
  - Now it will be <u>solid</u> at room temperature
  - It breaks down slower so acts a bit as a preservative.
- Many fast foods that advertise new 'healthier' meals by removing trans fats actually just converted them to saturated fats!

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### Why is this important?

- Phospholipids create a barrier to water
  - define outside vs. inside
  - they make <u>cell membranes!</u>













