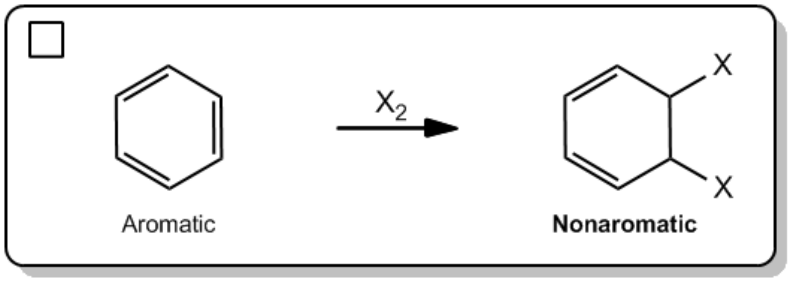
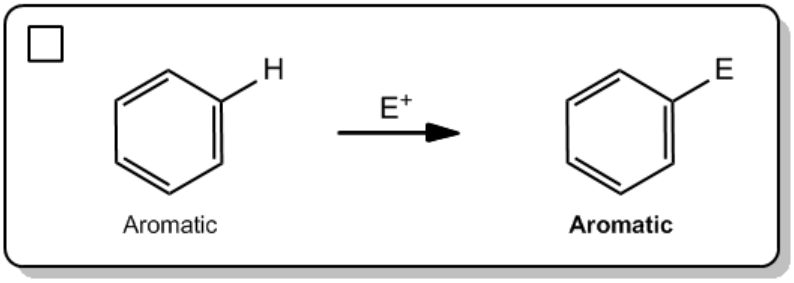
CONCEPT: ELECTROPHILIC AROMATIC SUBSTITUTION – GENERAL MECHANISM

Benzene reacts with very few reagents. It ***DOES NOT*** undergo typical addition reactions. Why?



If we can get benzene to react in a substitution reaction, this ***preserves*** *aromaticity*.



Very strong *electrophiles* can temporarily disrupt aromaticity of benzene to create a substitution product.

- We call this electrophilic aromatic substitution or _____. This is the *most important* mechanism of benzene.

EAS: General Mechanism