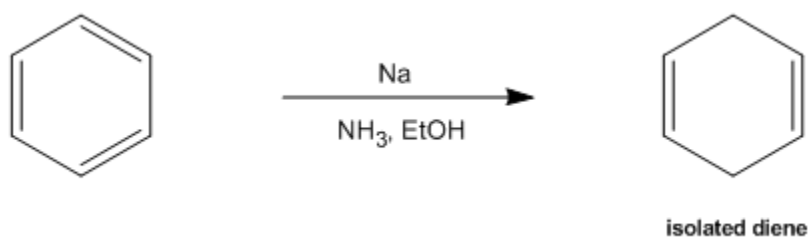


## CONCEPT: BIRCH REDUCTION

The birch reduction is a *dissolving metal reduction*, except reacting with benzenes instead of alkynes.

- The product of an unsubstituted benzene is a simple ***isolated cyclohexadiene***.

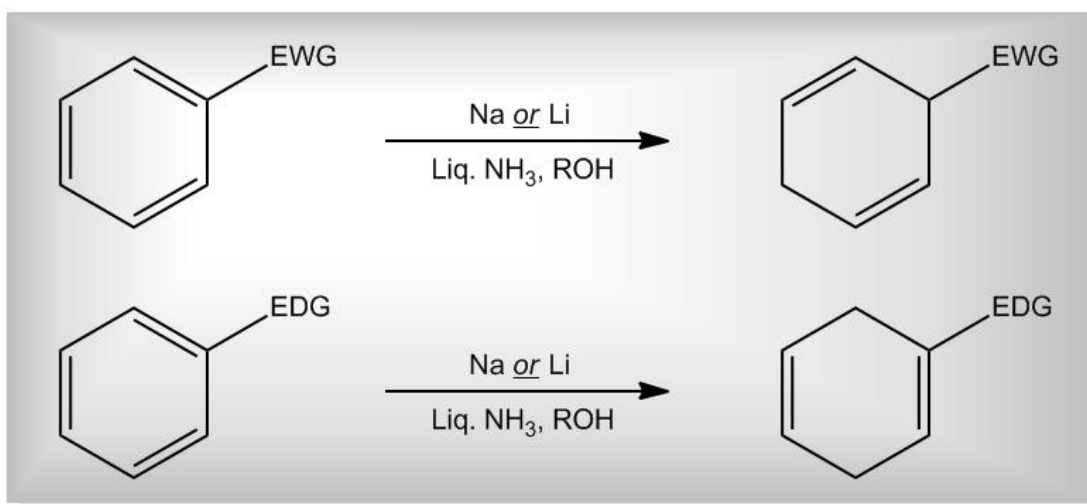
Mechanism:



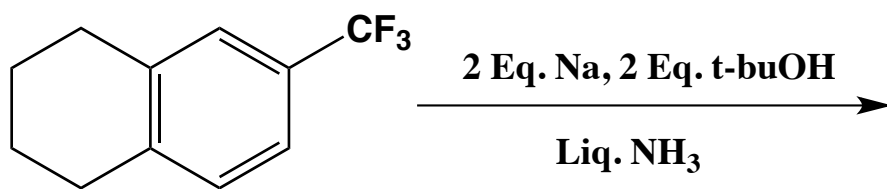
Regiochemistry:

Substituents affect the course of the mechanism, yielding regiospecific products.

- \_\_\_\_\_ groups *isolate* themselves from the diene
- \_\_\_\_\_ groups *attach* themselves to the diene



PRACTICE: Predict the major product from the Birch Reduction



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