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# Nucleic Acids, Nucleosides, and Nucleotides

National Cancer Institute

## Source

National Cancer Institute. *Nucleic Acids, Nucleosides, and Nucleotides*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C708.

A header concept for chemicals that are the building blocks of inherited genetic information. The monomer structure (nucleoside) contains either a purine or pyrimidine base linked to a deoxyribose or ribose carbohydrate group. Nucleotides are composed of a nucleoside and one to three phosphate groups. Nucleic acids are polymers of nucleotides that are linked by phosphodiester bonds.