# Cyclohexane Conformations



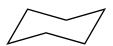
#### How to draw chair conformations:

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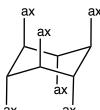
- Draw two slightly tilted parallel lines of the same length



- Draw two more parallel lines



-Connect the ring



- eq eq eq eq eq
- Axial bonds are extended straight up when vertex points up
- Axial bonds are extended straight down when vertex points down
- Equatorial bonds are drawn parallel to C-C bond

## Ring Flips

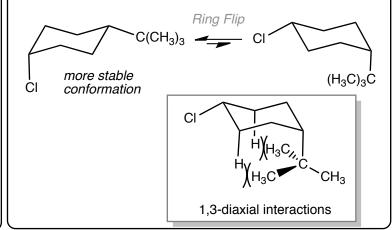
- Each carbon has one axial and one equatorial bond, one on the top face and one on the bottom face

$$T = Top face B = Bottom face$$

- Axial positions become equatorial
- Top positions remain on top
- Bottom positions remain on bottom

## Stability

The more stable conformation will typically have the most sterically hindered ("bulkiest") group in the **equatorial** position



#### **Example**

Determine the more stable conformation for each cyclohexane molecule

cis-1,2-dimethylcyclohexane

$$CH_3$$
 $CH_3$ 
 $CH_3$ 
 $CH_3$ 
 $CH_3$ 
 $CH_3$ 
 $CH_3$ 
 $CH_3$ 

$$CH_3$$
 $CH_3$ 
 $CH_3$ 

trans-1,3-dimethylcyclohexane