

6-Phenyldibenzo[*b,d*]phosphinine

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The title compound (**2b**) was obtained in 7 steps from 2-phenylbenzhydrol (**5**). The phenyl substituent of **2b** confers thermal stability to the [5]phosphaphenanthrene system by steric protection; in addition, conjugative interaction is revealed by the UV spectrum. The analogy to the corresponding arenes is briefly discussed.

Key words: Aromatic Phosphorus Heterocycles, UV Spectroscopy