







WHMIS Classification Symbols

Controlled products are divided into six classes; all have a distinctive hazard symbol assigned to assist in identifying the associated risks.

	Symbol	Hazards	Safe Handling Measures
Class A Compressed Gas Examples: fire extinguishers, propane, chlorine, welding gases.		Any product that is normally a gas at room temperature and kept in a container under pressure. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If ruptured or broken may rocket or torpedo • If heated, exposed to variations in temperature, dropped or abused, it may explode • Liquefied compressed gas can cause severe burns from frostbite. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep container closed tightly and ensure valves are effective. • Do not drop or handle roughly • Keep from heat or changes in temperature. • Must be secured and may require flashback arrester
Class B Flammable & Combustible Material Examples: propane, gasoline		Includes any solid, liquid or gas that will burn. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May burn at relatively low temperatures • May burst into flame spontaneously when in contact with air • May release flammable gas when in contact with water • May cause a fire if exposed to heat, sparks, flames or friction. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep away from heat or sources of ignition • Do not smoke around these materials • Avoid static discharges or impacts that could cause sparks • Keep container tightly closed
Class C Oxidizing Material Examples: Oxygen gas, hydrogen peroxide, bleach		Oxidizers cause other substances to burn or continue to burn because they release oxygen. Oxidizers will not <u>usually</u> catch fire by themselves. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May cause a fire if it contacts combustibles such as wood. • May react violently or cause an explosion if it contacts flammable substances, such as fuels. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep away from heat • Store in a cool place • Keep away from flammable and combustible materials • Avoid shock and friction

<p>Class D1 Material Causing Immediate & Serious Toxic Effects Examples: hydrogen sulphide, strychnine, cyanide</p> <p>Class D2 Material Causing Other Toxic Effects Examples: asbestos, saccharin, mercury</p> <p>Class D3 Biohazardous Infectious Materials Examples: HIV, Hepatitis B, salmonella</p>		<p>These materials are highly poisonous and immediately dangerous to life. The effects are acute.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May be fatal or cause permanent damage if it enters the body through the skin, is inhaled or ingested. <p>Materials in this class are toxic, but their effects are not immediate but likely to harm you in some way.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May cause death if repeatedly exposed • May irritate eyes and skin • May sensitize certain people and cause chemical allergies • May cause cancer, birth defects and sterility <p>These materials are organisms (and the toxins of organisms) that cause disease in persons and animals. They are germs – bacteria, viruses, fungi, etc. They also include cultures, concentrates and diagnostic specimens containing or suspected of containing such organisms.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May cause serious illness and death 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not breath gas or vapours • Avoid skin contact • Wear suitable personal protective equipment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not breath gas or vapours • Avoid skin contact • Wear suitable personal protective equipment • Wash hands thoroughly after using these materials <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep containers tightly closed • Wear suitable protective equipment and clothing • Seek medical attention if you feel ill
<p>Class E Corrosive Examples: sulphuric acid, caustic soda, many cleaners and disinfectants</p>		<p>These materials effects are permanent. Acids and bases are corrosive. Most corrosives are liquids but can be gases such as chlorine.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Causes sever eye and skin irritation upon contact • Causes severe tissue damage with long term exposure • May be harmful if inhaled 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid skin contact • Use recommended respiratory protective equipment and other personal protective equipment

<p>Class F Dangerously Reactive Material Examples: benzoyl peroxide, epoxy resins.</p>	 <p>This includes a wide variety of chemicals that are potentially self-reactive.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• It is very unstable• May react with water to release toxic or flammable gas• May explode if subjected to shock, friction or heat• Undergoes vigorous polymerization• Extremely reactive if it is stored for a long period of time.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Keep away from heat• Avoid contact with water• Avoid shock and friction• Wear suitable protective clothing
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------