

How to use an HMIS Label

What is an HMIS Label? The Hazardous Material Information System Label is a four-part colored label that uses numbers, letters and symbols to describe the hazards of a product.

What do I need to put an HMIS Label on? If you remove a hazardous material from its original container and put it in a secondary container then you need an HMIS label.

How do I know if a material is hazardous? Look up the product's Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) available on PPE Boards around campus. Look at the section called "Hazards Identification." You can also find MSDS sheets online.

| HMIS Health Rating Chart | |
|--------------------------|---|
| * Chronic Hazard | Chronic (long-term) health effects may result from repeated exposure. |
| 0- Minimal Hazard | No significant risk to health. |
| 1- Slight Hazard | Irritation or minor reversible injury possible. |
| 2- Moderate Hazard | Temporary or minor injury may occur. |
| 3- Serious Hazard | Major injury likely unless prompt action is taken and medical treatment is given. |
| 4- Severe Hazard | Life-threatening, major or permanent damage may result from single or repeated exposures. |

| HMIS Flammability Rating Chart | |
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| 0- Minimal Hazard | Materials that will not burn. |
| 1- Slight Hazard | Materials that must be preheated before ignition will occur. Includes liquids, solids, and semi-solids having a flash point above 200° F. (Class IIIB) |
| 2- Moderate Hazard | Materials which must be moderately heated or exposed to high ambient temperatures before ignition will occur. Includes liquids having a flash point at or above 100°F but below 200°F. (Class II & IIIA) |
| 3- Serious Hazard | Materials capable of ignition under almost all normal temperature conditions. Includes flammable liquids with flash points between 73°F and 100°F. (Class IB & IC) |
| 4- Severe Hazard | Flammable gases, or very volatile flammable liquids with flash points below 73°F and boiling points below 100°F. Materials may ignite spontaneously with air. (Class IA) |

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| F | | X | Consult your supervisor or S.O.P. for "SPECIAL" handling directions | | | | |
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| HMIS Reactivity Rating Chart | |
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| 0- Minimal Hazard | Materials that are normally stable, under fire conditions and will not react to water, polymerize, decompose, condense or self react. |
| 1- Slight Hazard | Materials that are normally stable, but can become unstable at high temperatures and pressures. Materials may react non-violently with water or undergo hazardous polymerization in the absence of inhibitors. |
| 2- Moderate Hazard | Materials that are unstable and may undergo violent chemical change at normal temperature and pressure with low risk for explosion. Materials may react violently with water or form peroxides upon exposure to air. |
| 3- Serious Hazard | Materials that may form explosive mixtures with water and are capable of detonation or explosive reaction in the presence of a strong igniting source or undergo chemical change at normal temperature and pressure with moderate risk of explosion. |
| 4- Severe Hazard | Materials that are readily capable of water reaction, detonation or explosive decomposition at normal temperatures and pressures. |