



SafetyAlert

We're Serious About Safety

Flammable Storage

Flammable and combustible liquids are present in nearly every workplace. Gasoline, diesel fuel, and many common products like solvents, thinners, cleaners, adhesives, paints, waxes, and polishes, may be flammable or combustible. These products are ubiquitous and have become a part of our lifestyle. However, if used or stored improperly, serious fires and death or injury may occur.



The two primary hazards associated with flammable and combustible liquids are explosion and fire. Safe handling and storage of flammable liquids requires the use of approved equipment and practices per OSHA 29 CFR 1910.106. OSHA will also accept compliance with the most current version of NFPA 30.

A good plan for safe use of flammable and combustible liquids contains at least these components:

- Control of ignition sources
- Proper storage
- Fire control
- Safe handling

Flammable & Combustible Checklist

- Not more than 60 gallons of Class 1, 2, or 3 flammable liquids, nor more than 120 gallons of Category 4 flammable liquids may be stored in a storage cabinet.
- Are there suitable fire control devices, such as portable fire extinguishers or a small hose available where flammable or combustible liquids are stored?
- Have all sources of ignition been eliminated in areas where flammable vapors may travel?
- Are the flammable liquids kept in covered containers when not in use?
- Are the flammable and combustible liquids stored only in acceptable (approved) containers?
- Is storage of flammable and combustible liquids limited to the amount required for current activities and maintenance?
- Are fewer than 10 gallons of Class 1 and Class 2 liquids stored outside of an approved storage cabinet or interior storage room?
- Are fewer than 25 gallons of flammable liquids stored in safety cans outside of an approved storage cabinet or storage room?
- Are containers and portable tanks used for flammable liquids electrically bonded or grounded during transfers?
- Do the locations where flammable vapor-air mixtures exist have electrical wiring installed according to the requirements of 29 CFR 1910 Subpart S (Electrical)?
- Are there means and procedures to dispose of leaked or spilled liquid promptly and safely?
- Is there adequate ventilation in areas where transfer operations are taking place?



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