

# Work Health and Safety Regulations: Classification and labelling for workplace hazardous chemicals

Classification		Labelling			
Hazard		Pictogram, code*	Signal word	Hazard Statement	
Class	Category			Code*	Text
Explosives	Unstable explosive		Danger	H200	Unstable explosive
	Division 1.1			H201	Explosive; mass explosion hazard
	Division 1.2			H202	Explosive; severe projection hazard
	Division 1.3			H203	Explosive; fire, blast or projection hazard
	Division 1.4	GHS01	Warning	H204	Fire or projection hazard
	Division 1.5	No GHS Pictogram <sup>(1)</sup>	Danger	H205	May mass explode in fire
	Division 1.6	No GHS Pictogram <sup>(1)</sup>	No Signal Word	N/A	No Hazard Statement
(1)=Explosives of Divisions 1.5 and 1.6 need to be labelled with their respective Dangerous Goods class label in accordance with the Australian Explosives Code.					
Flammable Gases	Category 1	 GHS02	Danger	H220	Extremely flammable gas
Flammable Aerosols	Category 1	 GHS02	Danger	H222	Extremely flammable aerosol
	Category 2		Warning	H223	Flammable aerosol
Oxidising Gases	Category 1	 GHS03	Danger	H270	May cause or intensify fire; oxidiser
Gases under Pressure <sup>(2)</sup>	Compressed gas	 GHS04	Warning	H280	Contains gas under pressure; may explode if heated
	Liquefied gas				
	Dissolved gas				
	Refrigerated liquefied gas			H281	Contains refrigerated gas; may cause cryogenic burns or injury.
(2)= The hazard class "Gases under Pressure" is subdivided into 'Groups' (not 'Categories').					
Flammable Liquids	Category 1	 GHS02	Danger	H224	Extremely flammable liquid and vapour
	Category 2			H225	Highly flammable liquid and vapour
	Category 3		Warning	H226	Flammable liquid and vapour
	Category 4	No Pictogram	Warning	H227	Combustible liquid
Flammable Solids	Category 1	 GHS02	Danger	H228	Flammable solid
	Category 2		Warning		

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Self-reactive substances and mixtures <sup>(3)</sup>  Organic Peroxides <sup>(3)</sup>	Type A	 GHS01	Danger	H240	Heating may cause an explosion
	Type B	 GHS01 + GHS02		H241	Heating may cause a fire or explosion
	Type C and D	 GHS02		H242	Heating may cause a fire
	Type E and F		Warning		
	Type G	No Pictogram	No Signal Word	N/A	No Hazard Statement
(3) = Two separate hazard classes have the same categories (and are therefore grouped).					
Pyrophoric Liquids	Category 1	 GHS02	Danger	H250	Catches fire spontaneously if exposed to air
Pyrophoric Solids	Category 1		Danger	H251	Self-heating; may catch fire
Self-heating substances and mixtures	Category 1		Warning	H252	Self-heating in large quantities; may catch fire
	Category 2		Danger	H260	In contact with water releases flammable gases which may ignite spontaneously
Substances and mixtures which, in contact with water, emit flammable gases	Category 1		Danger	H261	In contact with water releases flammable gases
	Category 2		Danger		
Category 3	Warning				
Oxidising Liquids <sup>(4)</sup>  Oxidising Solids <sup>(4)</sup>	Category 1	 GHS03	Danger	H271	May cause fire or explosion; strong oxidiser
	Category 2		Danger	H272	May intensify fire; oxidiser
	Category 3		Warning		
(4) = Two separate hazard classes have the same categories (and are therefore grouped).					
Corrosive to metals	Category 1	 GHS05	Warning	H290	May be corrosive to metals

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Acute Toxicity (Oral, Dermal or Inhalation)	Category 1	 GHS06	Danger	H300	Fatal if swallowed
	Category 2			H310	Fatal in contact with skin
	Category 3			H330	Fatal if inhaled
	Category 4	 GHS07	Warning	H301	Toxic if swallowed
				H311	Toxic in contact with skin
				H331	Toxic if inhaled
				H302	Harmful if swallowed
				H312	Harmful in contact with skin
				H332	Harmful if inhaled
Skin corrosion / irritation	Category 1A	 GHS05	Danger	H314	Causes severe skin burns and eye damage
	Category 1B				
	Category 1C				
	Category 2	 GHS07	Warning	H315	Causes skin irritation
Serious eye damage / eye irritation	Category 1	 GHS05	Danger	H318	Causes serious eye damage
	Category 2A	 GHS07	Warning	H319	Causes serious eye irritation
Sensitisation of the respiratory tract or the skin	Respiratory Sensitisers Category 1	 GHS08	Danger	H334	May cause allergy or asthma symptoms or breathing difficulties if inhaled
	Skin Sensitisers Category 1	 GHS07	Warning	H317	May cause an allergic skin reaction

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Germ cell mutagenicity	Category 1A	 GHS08	Danger	H340	May cause genetic defects <sup>(5)</sup>	
	Category 1B			Warning	H341	Suspected of causing genetic defects <sup>(5)</sup>
	Category 2		Danger		H350	May cause cancer <sup>(5)</sup>
Carcinogenicity	Category 1A			Warning	H351	Suspected of causing cancer <sup>(5)</sup>
	Category 1B				GHS08	H350
Category 2	GHS08		H351			
(5) = State route of exposure if it is conclusively proven that no other routes of exposure cause the hazard.						
Reproductive toxicity	Category 1A	 GHS08	Danger	H360 <sup>(6)</sup>	May damage fertility or the unborn child.	
	Category 1B			H360F <sup>(7)</sup>	May damage fertility.	
				H360D <sup>(7)</sup>	May damage the unborn child	
	Category 2			H360FD <sup>(7)</sup>	May damage fertility. May damage the unborn child.	
		H360Fd <sup>(7)</sup>	May damage fertility. Suspected of damaging the unborn child.			
H360Df <sup>(7)</sup>		May damage the unborn child. Suspected of damaging fertility.				
Additional category for effects on or via lactation	No Pictogram	No Signal Word	H362	May cause harm to breast-fed children.		
(6) = (state specific effect if known)(state route of exposure if it is conclusively proven that no other routes of exposure cause the hazard). (7) F = Fertility, D= Development (lowercase f, d = suspected effect).						
Specific target organ toxicity (single exposure)	Category 1	 GHS08	Danger	H370	Causes damage to organs <sup>(8,9)</sup>	
	Category 2			Warning	H371	May cause damage to organs <sup>(8,9)</sup>
	Category 3	 GHS07	Warning		H335	May cause respiratory irritation
H336				May cause drowsiness or dizziness		
Specific target organ toxicity (repeated exposure)	Category 1	 GHS08	Danger	H372	Causes damage to organs <sup>(8)</sup> through prolonged or repeated exposure <sup>(9)</sup>	
	Category 2			Warning	H373	May cause damage to organs <sup>(8)</sup> through prolonged or repeated exposure <sup>(9)</sup>
(8) = (state all organs affected, if known). (9) = (state route of exposure if it is conclusively proven that no other routes of exposure cause the hazard).						
Aspiration Toxicity	Category 1	 GHS08	Danger	H304	May be fatal if swallowed and enters airways	

\* = The code for the Pictogram and Hazard Statement should not be included on the label.

**Classification** is a process used to determine if a chemical can cause harm to human health and safety. It involves the identification and evaluation of the physical properties of a chemical, along with its health effects. It is the classification of a hazardous chemical that determines what information is communicated on the label and the Safety Data Sheet (SDS - previously known as Material Safety Data Sheet).

**The Work Health and Safety (WHS) Regulations** introduce a new system of chemical classification and hazard communication on labels and Safety Data Sheets, based on the Globally Harmonised System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS). This will replace the classification and hazard communication systems for workplace hazardous substances and dangerous goods. It will not replace requirements for dangerous goods transport.

This poster shows GHS signal words, pictograms and hazard statements for each GHS hazard class and category covered by the WHS Regulations that will soon appear on labels and SDS for workplace hazardous chemicals.

There will be a five year **transitional period** for moving to the new GHS-based system. During this time, both the hazardous substances and dangerous goods classification systems and the GHS are recognised under the new WHS laws. By 31 December 2016 all workplace hazardous chemicals must be classified according to the GHS and labels and SDS must be updated.

Further information on classification, labelling and safety data sheet requirements under the WHS Regulations, including transitional arrangements, is available from the Safe Work Australia website at [www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au](http://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au).

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