

Placard and manifest requirements under the Work Health and Safety Regulations



The Work Health and Safety (WHS) Regulations require a person conducting a business or undertaking to placard the workplace, prepare a manifest and notify the regulator where specified quantities of certain hazardous chemicals exceed threshold amounts. The threshold amounts and types of hazardous chemicals are prescribed in Schedule 11 of the WHS Regulations.

The new WHS Regulations introduce a number of changes to placard and manifest requirements compared to pre-harmonised laws. A key change is the use of hazard classes and categories under the Globally Harmonised System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS), instead of classes and categories of dangerous goods according to the Australian Code for the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road or Rail 7th Edition (ADG Code).

This guidance note assists duty holders comply with the requirements for placards and manifests under the WHS Regulations. It shows the link between GHS classes and categories and equivalent classes of dangerous goods under the ADG Code.

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4	Column 5	ADG Code Classification
Item	Description of hazardous chemical		Placard quantity	Manifest quantity	
1	Flammable gases	Category 1	200 L	5 000 L	2.1
2	Gases under pressure	Acute toxicity, categories 1, 2, 3 or 4 Note 1—Category 4 only up to LC ₅₀ of 5000 ppmV	50 L	500 L	2.3 - Note 2
3		Skin corrosion categories 1A, 1B or 1C	50 L	500 L	2.3 - Note 2
4		Aerosols (including flammable aerosols)	5000 L	10 000 L	2.1 or 2.2
5		Not specified elsewhere in this table	1000 L	10 000 L	2.2
6		Flammable liquids	Category 1	50 L	500 L
7	Category 2		250 L	2500 L	3 (PG II)
8	Category 3		1000 L	10 000 L	3 (PG III)
9	Any mix of chemicals from Items 6 – 8 where none of the items exceeds the quantities in columns 4 or 5 on their own		1000 L	10 000 L	
10	Category 4		10 000 L	100 000 L	Note 3
11	Self-reactive substances	Type A	5 kg or L	50 kg or L	GTDTBT – Note 4
12		Type B	50 kg or L	500 kg or L	4.1 (Type B)
13		Type C-F	250 kg or L	2500 kg or L	4.1 (Type C-F)
14	Flammable solids	Category 1	250 kg	2500 kg	4.1 (PG II)
15		Category 2	1000 kg	10 000 kg	4.1 (PG III)
16		Any mix of chemicals from Items 12 - 15 where none of the items exceeds the quantities in columns 4 or 5 on their own	1000 kg or L	10 000 kg or L	
17	Pyrophoric liquids and Pyrophoric solids	Category 1	50 kg or L	500 kg or L	4.2 (PG I)
18	Self heating substances and mixtures	Category 1	250 kg or L	2500 kg or L	4.2 (PG II)
19		Category 2	1000 kg or L	10 000 kg or L	4.2 (PG III)
20		Any mix of chemicals from Items 17 - 19 where none of the items exceeds the quantities in columns 4 or 5 on their own	1000 kg or L	10 000 kg or L	
21	Substances which in contact with water emit flammable gas	Category 1	50 kg or L	500 kg or L	4.3 (PG I)
22		Category 2	250 kg or L	2500 kg or L	4.3 (PG II)
23		Category 3	1000 kg or L	10 000 kg or L	4.3 (PG III)
24		Any mix of chemicals from Items 21 - 23 where none of the items exceeds the quantities in columns 4 or 5 on their own	1000 kg or L	10 000 kg or L	
25	Oxidising liquids and Oxidising solids	Category 1	50 kg or L	500 kg or L	5.1 (PG I)
26		Category 2	250 kg or L	2500 kg or L	5.1 (PG II)
27		Category 3	1000 kg or L	10 000 kg or L	5.1 (PG III)
28		Any mix of chemicals from Items 25 - 27 where none of the items exceeds the quantities in columns 4 or 5 on their own	1000 kg or L	10 000 kg or L	
29	Organic peroxides	Type A	5 kg or L	50 kg or L	GTDTBT – Note 4
30		Type B	50 kg or L	500 kg or L	5.2 (Type B)
31		Type C-F	250 kg or L	2500 kg or L	5.2 (Type C-F)
32		Any mix of chemicals from Items 30 and 31 where none of the items exceeds the quantities in columns 4 or 5 on their own	250 kg or L	2500 kg or L	
33	Acute toxicity (Note 5)	Category 1	50 kg or L	500 kg or L	6.1 (PG I)
34		Category 2	250 kg or L	2500 kg or L	6.1 (PG II)
35		Category 3	1000 kg or L	10 000 kg or L	6.1 (PG III)
36		Any mix of chemicals from Items 33 - 35 where none of the items exceeds the quantities in columns 4 or 5 on their own	1000 kg or L	10 000 kg or L	
37	Skin corrosion	Category 1A	50 kg or L	500 kg or L	8 (PG I)
38		Category 1B	250 kg or L	2500 kg or L	8 (PG II)
39		Category 1C	1000 kg or L	10 000 kg or L	8 (PG III)
40	Corrosive to metals	Category 1	1000 kg or L	10 000 kg or L	8 (PG III)
41		Any mix of chemicals from Items 37 - 40 where none of the items exceeds the quantities in columns 4 or 5 on their own	1000 kg or L	10 000 kg or L	
42	Unstable explosives		5 kg or L	50 kg or L	GTDTBT – Note 4
43		Any mix of chemicals from items 11, 29 and 42 where none of the items exceed the quantities in columns 4 or 5 on their own	5 kg or L	50 kg or L	GTDTBT – Note 4

- NOTES:**
- For item 2, gases under pressure with acute toxicity category 4 only applies up to a LC₅₀ of 5000 ppmV, which is equivalent to Div. 2.3 under the ADG code.
 - Division 2.3 under the ADG Code includes gases and vapours as acutely toxic (categories 1, 2 and 3) and gases which are corrosive to skin (category 1).
 - Only liquids with a flash point of up to 93°C are classified as flammable liquids under the WHS Regulations. C1 combustible liquids with flash points between 93°C and 150°C are not classified as flammable liquids under the GHS or WHS Regulations.
 - GTDTBT = Goods too dangerous to be transported.
 - For gases classified with Acute Toxicity, the placard and manifest quantities as defined under item 2, rather than items 33-36, should be used.

Flammable liquid classification: For the purposes of this table, if a flammable liquid of category 4 is used, handled or stored in the same spill compound as one or more flammable liquids of categories 1, 2 or 3, the total quantity of flammable liquid is determined as if the flammable liquid of category 4 had the same classification as the flammable liquid in the spill compound with the lowest flash point. For example, 1000 L of flammable liquid category 1 and 1000 L of flammable liquid category 4 is considered to contain 2000 L of flammable liquid category 1.

For further information on placard and manifest requirements in your state or territory, contact your local Work Health and Safety regulator.