WHMIS Classification Symbols

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Symbol</th>
<th>Hazards</th>
<th>Safe Handling Measures</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class A</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Symbol" /></td>
<td><strong>Compressed Gas</strong>&lt;br&gt;Examples: fire extinguishers, propane, chlorine, welding gases.&lt;br&gt;Any product that is normally a gas at room temperature and kept in a container under pressure.&lt;br&gt;• If ruptured or broken may rocket or torpedo&lt;br&gt;• If heated, exposed to variations in temperature, dropped or abused, it may explode&lt;br&gt;• Liquefied compressed gas can cause severe burns from frostbite.</td>
<td>• Keep container closed tightly and ensure valves are effective.&lt;br&gt;• Do not drop or handle roughly&lt;br&gt;• Keep from heat or changes in temperature&lt;br&gt;• Must be secured and may require flashback arrester</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class B</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Symbol" /></td>
<td><strong>Flammable &amp; Combustible Material</strong>&lt;br&gt;Examples: propane, gasoline&lt;br&gt;Includes any solid, liquid or gas that will burn.&lt;br&gt;• May burn at relatively low temperatures&lt;br&gt;• May burst into flame spontaneously when in contact with air&lt;br&gt;• May release flammable gas when in contact with water&lt;br&gt;• May cause a fire if exposed to heat, sparks, flames or friction.</td>
<td>• Keep away from heat or sources of ignition&lt;br&gt;• Do not smoke around these materials&lt;br&gt;• Avoid static discharges or impacts that could cause sparks&lt;br&gt;• Keep container tightly closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class C</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Symbol" /></td>
<td><strong>Oxidizing Material</strong>&lt;br&gt;Examples: Oxygen gas, hydrogen peroxide, bleach&lt;br&gt;Oxidizers cause other substances to burn or continue to burn because they release oxygen. Oxidizers will not usually catch fire by themselves.&lt;br&gt;• May cause a fire if it contacts combustibles such as wood.&lt;br&gt;• May react violently or cause an explosion if it contacts flammable substances, such as fuels.</td>
<td>• Keep away from heat&lt;br&gt;• Store in a cool place&lt;br&gt;• Keep away from flammable and combustible materials&lt;br&gt;• Avoid shock and friction</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Examples</td>
<td>Precautions</td>
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| **Class D1** | Material Causing Immediate & Serious Toxic Effects | Hydrogen sulphide, strychnine, cyanide | These materials are highly poisonous and immediately dangerous to life. The effects are acute.  
- May be fatal or cause permanent damage if it enters the body through the skin, is inhaled or ingested. | Do not breath gas or vapours  
- Avoid skin contact  
- Wear suitable personal protective equipment |
| **Class D2** | Material Causing Other Toxic Effects | Asbestos, saccharin, mercury | Materials in this class are toxic, but their effects are not immediate but likely to harm you in some way.  
- 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  
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.  
- May cause serious illness and death | Do not breath gas or vapours  
- Avoid skin contact  
- Wear suitable personal protective equipment  
- Wash hands thoroughly after using these materials  
- Keep containers tightly closed  
- Wear suitable protective equipment and clothing  
- Seek medical attention if you feel ill |
| **Class D3** | Biohazardous Infectious Materials | HIV, Hepatitis B, salmonella | | |
| **Class E** | Corrosive | Sulphuric acid, caustic soda, many cleaners and disinfectants | These materials effects are permanent. Acids and bases are corrosive. Most corrosives are liquids but can be gases such as chlorine.  
- Causes sever eye and skin irritation upon contact  
- Causes severe tissue damage with long term exposure  
- May be harmful if inhaled | Avoid skin contact  
- Use recommended respiratory protective equipment and other personal protective equipment |
| Class F Dangerously Reactive Material | This includes a wide variety of chemicals that are potentially self-reactive.  
- 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. | Keep away from heat  
- Avoid contact with water  
- Avoid shock and friction  
- Wear suitable protective clothing |