CHEMICAL HAZARDS

TYPES OF CHEMICALS



FLAMMABLE

Flammable materials will burn or ignite, causing fire or combustion. An ignitable chemical has a flashpoint of less than 100° F. Several solvents, adhesives, and fuels are flammable materials. Some examples include Methanol, acetonitrile, diesel fuel, and mineral spirits.



COMBUSTIBLE

Materials will burn, but require a flame or elevated temperature plus a spark to start them; and have a flashpoint greater than 100° F but less than 200° F.



CORROSIVE

Can cause visible destruction of, or irreversible alterations in, living tissue by chemical action at the site of contact. Agents with a pH of less than 2.0 or greater than 12.5 are considered to be corrosive. We use corrosive chemicals as cleaning agents, degreasers, and chemical reactants. Some examples of corrosive materials are Acetic acid, sodium hydroxide, ammonia, and phenol.



REACTIVE

Reactive materials react violently or explode under either ambient conditions or when in contact with air, water, or other chemicals.



OXIDIZERS

Reactive materials react violently or explode under either ambient conditions or when in contact with air, water, or other chemicals.