

















WHAT IS A SAFETY DATA SHEET?

The Safety Data Sheet or SDS is a reference document created by the chemical manufacturer. It is where you go for more information on the hazardous product.

Before you work with a hazardous product you should be able to answer:

What is the product? Section 1: Product Identification	What are the hazards? Section 2: Hazard Identification	How do I work with this safely? Section 7: Handling and Storage	What do I do in an emergency? Section 4, 5, 6: First Aid, Fire Fighting Measures, and Accidental Release Measures
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THE SDS IS WRITTEN IN A CONSISTENT 16-SECTION FORMAT:

 SDS Section 1: Product Identification Name of the product, exactly as found on container label Other means of identification - product codes, numbers, etc. Supplier's name, address, and emergency phone number Recommended use and restrictions	 SDS Section 7: Handling and Storage Precautions for safe handling Conditions for safe storage, including any incompatibility	 SDS Section 11: Toxicological Information Delayed and immediate effects, and chronic health effects from short-term and long-term exposure Symptoms related to physical, chemical, and toxicological characteristics Information on likely routes of exposure Numerical measures of toxicity (ATE), if available					
 SDS Section 2: Hazard Identification Classification of the hazardous product Hazard pictogram(s) Signal word Hazard statement(s) and precautionary statement(s) Other hazards not classified	 SDS Section 8: Exposure Controls and Personal Protection Appropriate engineering controls Recommended PPE- eye and face, skin, and respiratory protection Occupational exposure limits for the product and the source of their values	 SDS Section 12: Ecological Information Ecotoxicity (air, soil, or water) Short term or long-term threat to the environment					
 SDS Section 3: Composition / Information on Ingredients Chemical name Common name and synonyms CAS registry number and any unique identifiers Trade secrets Chemical name of impurities, stabilizing solvents and additives Concentration if product is a mixture	 SDS Section 9: Physical and Chemical Properties Appearance: physical state or colour Odour and Odour Threshold pH Initial boiling point and boiling range Melting point and freezing point Flash point Evaporation rate Flammability, for a solid and gas Upper and lower flammability or explosive limits Vapour pressure Vapour density Relative density Solubility Partition coefficient Auto-ignition temperature Decomposition temperature Viscosity	 SDS Section 13: Disposal Considerations Information for safe handling for disposal and methods of disposal, including any contaminated packaging					
 SDS Section 4: First Aid Measures First aid measures based on exposure method - Inhalation, Ingestion, Skin and Eye Contact Most important acute or delayed symptoms or effects Indication of immediate medical attention and special treatment	 SDS Section 14: Transport Information <table border="0"> <tr> <td>UN Number</td> <td rowspan="4">Environmental hazards Special transportation provisions Bulk transport details</td> </tr> <tr> <td>UN Proper Shipping Name</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Transportation Hazard Class</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Packing group</td> </tr> </table>	UN Number	Environmental hazards Special transportation provisions Bulk transport details	UN Proper Shipping Name	Transportation Hazard Class	Packing group	 SDS Section 15: Regulatory Information Safety, health, and environmental regulations detailed by federal and by state/province/local body
UN Number	Environmental hazards Special transportation provisions Bulk transport details						
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Transportation Hazard Class							
Packing group							
 SDS Section 5: Fire Fighting Measures Appropriate firefighting techniques Suitable and unsuitable extinguishing material Chemical hazards from the fire PPE and special precautions for firefighting	 SDS Section 10: Stability and Reactivity Reactivity Chemical stability Possibility of hazardous reactions Conditions to avoid, including static discharge, shock or vibration Incompatible materials Hazardous decomposition products	 SDS Section 16: Other Information Date of latest revision.					
 SDS Section 6: Accidental Release Measures Personal precautions Protective equipment Emergency procedures Methods and materials for containment and cleanup SPILL KIT							

The product name on the container label needs to be an exact match with the SDS.

Where do you get an SDS?

The chemical supplier provides the SDS to the purchaser of the hazardous product.

What are an employer's responsibilities for SDSs?

Employers need to ensure SDSs are available to employees in paper or electronic format.

When do I need an SDS?

Under HazCom or WHMIS, any hazardous product used, handled, or stored in workplace requires an SDS. This would include uncontrolled products like Windex or WD-40.