

# What Makes Hazardous Materials Hazardous?

Nearly every worksite has hazardous materials around. Your health and safety depend on you knowing about possible hazards at work.



## BE INFORMED

*Where can you find information on the hazards of materials in your workplace?*

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## Materials are hazardous if they...

- ◆ **are flammable**—such as solvents and fuels.
- ◆ **are reactive**—They may explode, burn or release dangerous vapors when they contact air, water, heat or certain chemicals, or when released from pressure.
- ◆ **are an acute health hazard**—They burn skin or are dangerous to inhale or swallow.
- ◆ **cause chronic or long-term health hazards**—such as cancer or liver damage.

*What hazardous materials do you work with?*

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*In what ways are they hazardous?*

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*How do you protect yourself from the hazards?*

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