Hazard symbols

To work safely in the lab, you must be able to:

- recognise these hazard symbols
- know what they mean.

Look out for them on containers, worksheets and in textbooks.



Harmful

The substance may irritate the eyes or skin, or make you unwell if breathed in or swallowed.



Environmental hazard

The substance can harm the environment and living things, especially ones that live in water.



Corrosive

The substance damages metals, and can attack or destroy living tissue, including the eyes and skin.



Toxic

The substance could cause death if it is absorbed through the skin, breathed in or swallowed.



Flammable

The substance can catch fire easily and burn. Do not confuse this symbol with the one on the right.



Oxidising

The substance can cause other substances to catch fire, or make them burn more vigorously.

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