

HAND INJURIES & CHEMICALS

Working with chemicals can be a high-risk task. They can absorb through your skin and into your body usually through your hands. Repeated, unprotected handling of chemicals can lead to skin irritation or worse.

- **Always Read Labels:** Understanding what you are working with is essential.
- **Use Protective Gloves:** Wear the right gloves to prevent direct contact with chemicals.

Knowing the dangers of using chemicals can help keep you protected. Use protective measures every time you handle chemicals. Your safety is paramount.

KNOW THE DANGERS OF CHEMICALS

- **PROTECTIVE MEASURES**
- **AVOID CHEMICAL EXPOSURE**



BC Forest Safety

Safety is **good** business

HAND INJURIES & CHEMICALS



Using detergents and solvents can dry out your skin and strip away natural oils, potentially leading to rashes and further irritation. Repeated use can exacerbate these conditions, causing discomfort.

Chemicals like caustic Sodium Hydroxide can burn your skin upon contact. Both highly acidic and caustic substances pose an immediate risk of burns.

TAKE PROTECTIVE MEASURES:

- Always wear protective gloves when handling chemicals. Choose the right kind of glove based on the chemical(s) you're using.
- Neoprene gloves are suitable for many workplace chemicals, including solvents and detergents, but they are ineffective against substances like Benzene.
- Latex gloves are not recommended for many solvents.
- Cut-resistant gloves protect against sharp objects, but offer no chemical protection.

AVOID CHEMICAL EXPOSURE:

- Use all required personal protective equipment (PPE).
- Never eat, drink or smoke while handling hazardous chemicals.
- Always read a chemical's safety data sheet (SDS) prior to use.
- Always wash your hands with soap and warm water after using chemicals.
- Never try to identify a chemical through smell or taste.
- Know, understand and practice emergency evacuation and containment procedures.
- Properly store all hazardous chemicals to help eliminate the potential for spills and limit access to them.
- Make sure all chemical containers are properly and clearly labelled.

REMEMBER:

**Protect your skin from irritation and burns
by using the right gloves and PPE
whenever handling chemicals.**

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