
GENERAL CHEMISTRY *for the* ENGINEERING SCIENCES

Lab safety rules

SAFETY RULES

You are required to comply with the following safety rules. Failure to do so leads to expulsion from the lab: you will be given a grade of zero for the experiment and you will not be allowed to perform the experiment at a later time.

- Wear safety glasses at all times.
- Do not show any skin except your face and hands.
- Lab coats are optional; if you wear a lab coat, you must nevertheless not show any skin except your face and hands.
- Shorts, skirts, short-sleeve shirts, tank tops, T-shirts and midriff-bearing tops are not acceptable.
- Wear closed-toe shoes. Flip-flops, sandals, Birkenstocks, and Crocs are not acceptable.
- Wear gloves at all times; gloves are provided in the lab.
- If you spill chemicals on your skin, immediately wash the affected area with plenty of cold water and notify your TF of the incident.
- Never eat, drink, chew gum or smoke in lab. Do not wear headphones.
- In case of fire, notify your TF and evacuate the lab. Do not attempt to extinguish a fire. Familiarize yourself with the location of all exits.
- Do not perform unauthorized experiments.
- Thou shalt not touch thyself or anyone else. Do not rub your eyes, put your fingers

in your mouth, use your teeth to carry laboratory objects, or touch other students. Wash your hands before you leave.

SAFETY EQUIPMENT

Familiarize yourself with the location and operation of safety equipment.

■ **Eye washes** Open the eye wash drawer and flush your eyes for at least 15 min.

■ **Fire extinguishers** Pull the pin, depress the trigger, and aim the spray at the base of the fire. The contents of the fire extinguisher are exhausted in 10 sec.

■ **Safety showers** Pull the handle down. The shower releases a reservoir of 300 pounds of cold water, which does not cease until the reservoir is exhausted.

■ **Fire blankets** Wrap the blanket around yourself and roll on the floor.

WASTE DISPOSAL RULES

■ Do not dispose of anything down the drain! All chemical waste is to be treated as hazardous and must be collected in appropriate disposal receptacles.

■ Use a 600-mL beaker as a “slop jar” in which you dispose of chemical waste. When the slop jar is full, empty its contents in the large hazardous-waste drum.

■ Dispose of broken glassware in the broken glassware boxes.