



Danger! Contents Under Pressure

Always remember that though compressed gas cylinders are common, they can be extremely dangerous. They can even explode or become a deadly missile if handled carelessly.

Compressed gases can be:

- Flammable
- Toxic
- Corrosive
- Suffocating
- Explosive
- Reactive
- Oxidizing

... so never use an unlabeled container, and always consult the SDS to determine the potential hazards and how to protect against them.

Keep in mind these other safety rules for transporting, labeling, handling, storing, and using compressed gas:

- Never roll or drag a compressed gas cylinder—use a specially designed hand truck or cart.
- Never try to force a valve or safety cap with tools—if you can't open it by hand, don't use the container.
- Never use cylinders for unintended purposes (weights, platforms, supports).
- Never try to repair a leaking or damaged cylinder—inform a supervisor.
- Store cylinders securely—use straps, chains, or cords to keep them from tipping or falling over.
- Transport cylinders upright with the valve up—make sure all regulators have been removed.
- Before using a cylinder, inspect it for obvious damage and clear labeling—return damaged or questionable cylinders to the supplier.
- Always wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) when working with compressed gas cylinders—eye and foot protection, face shields, gloves, protective clothing, and respirators.

Accidents from compressed gas cylinders can be very serious, even fatal. Don't take chances—always treat them with caution and respect!