KNOW YOUR WHMIS PICTOGRAMS.

Pictograms are graphic images that show what type of hazard is present when the product is being used. Pictograms have a distinctive red square as a border and the square is set on one of its points. The only exception to this is the pictogram for biohazardous infectious materials. Inside the border, the picture will detail what hazard the pictogram warns of.

Let's examine some pictograms and their meanings.



FLAME

The flame pictogram is used for potential fire hazards



FLAME OVER CIRCLE

The flame over circle pictogram is used to describe oxidizing materials.



GAS CYLINDER

The gas cylinder pictogram is used for gases under pressure and may explode if heated, punctured, or dropped.



CORROSION

The corrosion pictogram is used for products that may cause corrosive damage to metals, as well as skin and eyes.



EXPLODING BOMB

The exploding bomb pictogram is used for the danger of explosion or reactivity hazards.



SKULL & CROSSBONES

The skull and crossbones pictogram indicates that the product can cause death or toxicity with short exposure to small amounts.



HEALTH HAZARD

The health hazard pictogram is used to describe the products that may cause or are suspected of causing serious health effects.



EXCLAMATION MARK

The exclamation mark pictogram indicates that a product may cause less serious health effects or damage to the ozone layer.

SPECIAL CASES:



ENVIROMENT*

May cause damage to the aquatic environment.

*The CHS system defines an enviromental hazards group. It was not adopted by WHMIS 2015, but you may see it listed on labels and SDSs.



BIOHAZARDOUS INFECTIOUS MATERIALS**

The hazard pictogram for the biohazardous infectious materials class indicates the classes where there is a danger of organisms or toxins that can cause diseases in people or animals.

**This symbol is not part of the GHS, but is included in WHMIS 2015.

Every employer must provide their employees with appropriate training before hazardous materials can be used. Given all the changes to WHMIS, meeting legislative requirements can seem daunting. With HRdownloads' unlimited solutions, you can have the tools and advice available to support your organization through the transition.

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