










Hazard Communication: Pictograms

A pictogram may be a symbol with other graphic elements, such as a border, background pattern, or color that is intended to convey specific information about the hazard. Some pictograms are symbols that resemble the hazardous effect. Others are merely meant to attract attention.

Here are some of the more common pictograms, as defined by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).¹

<p>Health Hazard</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carcinogen • Mutagenicity • Reproductive Toxicity • Respiratory Sensitizer • Target Organ Toxicity • Aspiration Toxicity 	<p>Flame</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flammables • Pyrophorics • Self-Heating • Emits Flammable Gas • Self-Reactives • Organic Peroxides 	<p>Exclamation Mark</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Irritant (skin and eye) • Skin Sensitizer • Acute Toxicity (harmful) • Narcotic Effects • Respiratory Tract Irritant • Hazardous to Ozone Layer (Non-Mandatory)
<p>Gas Cylinder</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gases Under Pressure 	<p>Corrosion</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skin Corrosion/ Burns • Eye Damage • Corrosive to Metals 	<p>Exploding Bomb</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explosives • Self-Reactives • Organic Peroxides
<p>Flame Over Circle</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oxidizers 	<p>Environment (Non-Mandatory)</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aquatic Toxicity 	<p>Skull and Crossbones</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acute Toxicity (fatal or toxic)

Q&A

Here are some questions to help start conversations around the Hazard Communication Pictograms in your workplace:

- Do container labels have standardized pictograms to convey hazards and necessary safeguards you should follow when working with that product?
- Is the pictogram equipped with the standardized format: red framed diamond border, white background, and symbol representing a distinct hazard(s)?
- For more information, please review the **OSHA Hazard Communication Standard** or download the **OSHA Small Entity Compliance Guide for Employers That Use Hazardous Chemicals**.



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¹Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Standard 1926, subpart X, 2018