

INTRODUCTION

Safety signs and symbols bring various messages, depending on the message they planned to give, gravity of the danger, intended place they are installed and degree of the results if they are not obeyed. Signs are used to prevent accidents. OSHA defines signs as “the warnings of hazard, temporarily or permanently affixed or placed at locations where hazards exist.”

SIGNAGE COLORS AND THEIR MEANINGS

OSHA has specific requirements for signage. Below is a list of the different types of signage and what they mean.

DANGER SIGNS:

- Are red and black with white field.
- The word DANGER is written across the top.
- DANGER signs indicate an immediate hazardous situation which could result in severe injury or death.
- These signs are found in areas where explosives are stored, where hard hats are required, where high voltages exist, where automatically-started equipment is used or to indicate no trespassing.



WARNING SIGNS:

- Are orange with black lettering.
- The word WARNING is written across the top of the sign.
- Warning signs indicate a potentially hazardous situation which could result in severe injury or death.
- These signs warn employees of moving machinery, flammable liquid storage, forklift traffic or to indicate that smoking is not allowed.



CAUTION SIGNS:

- Are yellow with black lettering.
- The word CAUTION is written across the top of the sign.
- Caution signs indicate a hazardous situation which may result in a moderate injury.
- Caution signs warn of hazards such as slippery floors, forklift area, wearing safety equipment or low overhead clearance.



NOTICE SIGNS:

- Are blue and white.
- The word NOTICE is written across the top of the sign.
- Notice signs indicate company policies relating to the safety of personnel or protection of the property.
- These signs tell employees to keep a door closed, to keep aisles clear or to not block a doorway.



SAFETY FIRST SIGNS:

- Are green and white.
- The words SAFETY FIRST are written across the top of the sign.
- Safety First signs indicate general safety instructions as respect to safe working conditions.
- These signs tell employees to keep an area clean, to walk not run or to use proper lifting techniques.



SPECIAL SAFETY SIGNS:

- Are various colors depending on the sign and are usually signs for biological hazards and radiation hazards.
- The biological hazard (biohazard) sign is fluorescent orange or orange-red with letters or symbols in a contrasting color.
- The biohazard sign alerts us to the presence or potential presence of blood or other biological hazards.
- Radiation hazards are identified with a sign bearing the three-bladed radiation symbol in black or magenta or red on a yellow background.
- The radiation sign alerts us to the presence or potential presence of radiation.



SAFETY INSTRUCTION SIGNS:

- Are green and white.
- They are not used to warn against specific hazards.
- These signs remind you to report accidents, help locate first-aid equipment and direct you along an evacuation route.



CONCLUSION

Signs are never a substitute for good safety procedures and training, they are useful to remind us of hazards and ways we can protect against them. Always take seriously the information on a sign whether in the workplace or on the road. You can prevent injuries and save lives if you understand the signs and the hazard they are warning about.



Builders' Exchange
OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY

Safety Meeting Report

Employer _____

Date _____

Location _____

Meeting Supervisor _____

Safety Meeting Subject: _____

Accidents Reviewed: _____

Suggestions: _____

Employee's Attending

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

9. _____

10. _____

11. _____

12. _____

13. _____

14. _____

15. _____