

Lab Safety Levels – Quick Reference Guide

Safety Level	Suit Up	Wise Up	Clean Up
<p style="text-align: center;">1</p> <p>Chemicals: Household products only</p> <p>Physical hazards: None present</p>	<p>Street clothes: No restrictions.</p> <p>PPE: Follow manufacturer’s recommendations.</p>	<p>Products remain in original container and be used in amount and manner consistent with household use.</p>	<p>Follow established waste disposal protocols. Recycle whenever possible.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">2</p> <p>Chemicals: Household products only</p> <p>Physical hazards: Mechanical equipment such as saws, lathes, drill presses, grinders, etc.</p>	<p>Street clothes: Lab attire*</p> <p>PPE: Impact resistant safety glasses as appropriate for the use of certain equipment. Gloves when recommended by product manufacturer.</p>	<p>Ensure that each person is fully trained on equipment prior to use. Do not work alone. Do not work when the building is unoccupied. Do not leave on-going operations unattended.</p>	<p>Clean equipment and work area after use.</p>
<p>Note: Ammonia and Bleach are not considered household products in this context.</p>			
<p style="text-align: center;">3</p> <p>Chemical: Standard chemical hazards such as acids, bases, flammables, toxics and chemically preserved specimens.</p> <p>Physical hazards: Small or incidental only. No large equipment.</p>	<p>Street Clothes: Lab attire*</p> <p>PPE: Lab coat or apron. Splash goggles. Gloves as appropriate.</p>	<p>Standard chemical hygiene practices. Do not leave on-going reactions unattended without adequate safety measures in place. Staff and faculty should avoid working in the building alone. Students must check in with supervisory staff or faculty who are present in the building, prior to working alone in a lab.</p>	<p>Follow established waste disposal protocols. Keep all waste containers in secondary containment and tightly closed. Wash hands thoroughly.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">4</p> <p>Chemical: Exceptional hazards such as carcinogen, highly toxic or pyrophoric.</p> <p>Physical hazards: lasers or other exceptional hazards</p>	<p>Street Clothes: Lab attire*</p> <p>PPE: Dependent upon specific hazard. Includes lab coat, apron, splash goggles, and may include special gloves, face shield or eyewear.</p>	<p>Conduct a hazard analysis and follow all hazard control recommendations. Do not leave on-going reactions or operations unattended. Staff and faculty should avoid working in the building alone, especially evenings and weekends. Students must check in with supervisory staff or faculty who are present in the building, prior to working alone in a lab.</p>	<p>Follow chemical specific waste disposal protocols. See the CHO for assistance. Keep all waste containers in secondary containment and tightly closed. Wash hands thoroughly.</p>

*Lab Attire: Long pants, shoes that cover the entire foot, no loose items, long hair tied back.

For additional information see the Academic Chemical Management and Safety Program.

Safety Levels are meant to provide flexibility and can be applied to a procedure, a course or a space.