



Handle Chemicals Right

Four habits that separate a careful chemist from a lab accident.



Read the SDS

Every chemical has a 16-section Safety Data Sheet. Check hazards (§2) and first aid (§4) first.



Store by Compatibility

Keep acids from bases, oxidizers from flammables. Segregate — never alphabetize.



Acid Into Water

Always add acid to water, slowly — never the reverse. It spreads the heat safely.



Never Mouth-Pipette

Use a bulb or pump. Point heated tubes away from people.



Critique the procedure before you run it.

Read every step for hazards on paper — before anyone gets hurt.