# CHEMICAL HAZARDS





Chemicals can be hazardous to your health and the environment, but they are sometimes part of the job. You can protect yourself and others by using the information found on chemical labels to take necessary safety precautions and select appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).



### Nancy's Story

Nancy was mixing a solution that included hydrochloric acid, sometimes known as muriatic acid. She could not find impervious rubber gloves, so she put on cotton gloves thinking that they would provide sufficient protection. By the time she was done mixing, she felt severe pain in the fingers of her left hand. As the pain did not subside, she was sent to the hospital for treatment and was admitted.

- What caused the incident?
- How could it have been prevented?
- Do you know someone that that had chemical burns? What happened?

## Points to Remember

- Select a safer chemical alternative if possible.
- Refer to the label or safety data sheet to learn about the chemical you are using.
- Read the label to learn about potential health effects.
- Follow the prevention measures mentioned in the label.
- Store the product in the original container in a designated chemical storage area.
- Prepare and follow housekeeping measures to clean chemical spills as soon as they occur.
- Dispose of the chemicals in an appropriate manner.
- Use necessary personal protective equipment (PPE) when handling the chemical.

#### TALK ABOUT IT

- What chemicals do we use in our workplace?
- What PPE is required for these chemicals?
- Where are the chemicals stored in our workplace?
- Where can we access the Safety Data Sheets?

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SELECT THE PPE RECOMMENDED FOR SOMEONE WORKING WITH CHEMICALS. MULTIPLE PPE CAN BE SELECTED.



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