



Storing of Flammable and Combustible Liquids

What are they?

A flammable or combustible liquid is any chemical volatile enough to create flammable vapors which can ignite if a spark is present. These liquids are subdivided, based on their boiling and flash points, into a hierarchy of hazard classification. All such liquids are required to be labeled, so if the label on the container says "flammable" or "combustible" anywhere on it, then it meets the criteria and must be stored according to the fire code rules.

Treat empty containers the same as partially filled ones; the vapor in an un-rinsed container is as flammable as the liquid was. Put the lid back on and store the container in the same location as you did when it was full

More than 10 gallons of flammable chemical out

Side of a flammable cabinet

1. Conspicuous signs on it which read, in large red letters on a contrasting background, FLAMMABLE - KEEP FIRE AWAY.
2. Doors that are well-fitting, self-closing, and equipped with a latch. It's also a very good idea to have a lock hasp fitted to the cabinet for security.
3. A leakproof bottom, and liquid-tight walls to a height of at least two inches up from the bottom of the interior.
4. Approved construction materials and methods. They may be made of either metal or wood, so long as they meet the specifications of the standard.

Type of Liquid	Flash Point	Boiling Point	Examples	Max (gal)
Class I-A	<73	<100	Ethyl ether, acetaldehyde, ethyl mercaptan	30
Class I-B	<73	<100	MEK, gasoline, methanol, toluene, hexane, benzene, acetone, acetonitrile	60
Class I-C	<73	<100	Turpentine, styrene	90
Class II	>100	<140	Stoddard solvent, acetic acid, acetic anhydride, kerosene, diesel	120