



**TOWN OF BRIGHTON**  
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## ***NFPA 704 – Placard and Label Requirements***

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*The purpose of this standard shall provide guidance to facilities and businesses which are required to post placards or labels for hazard identification as directed by the Office of the Fire Marshal, in designing the appropriate size and/or design of the placard or labeling.*

### **Purpose**

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The purpose of this standard is to establish recommended standards for posting hazardous material identification signs for rooms, businesses, buildings, facilities, and other interior or exterior locations where hazardous materials are stored, manufactured or used.

Fire incidents and other accidents involving hazardous materials require special consideration by emergency response personnel. In order to provide emergency response personnel with information about the nature of the materials that they may encounter within a business site, hazardous materials identification signs are required to be posted in accordance with these procedures.

### **Scope**

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This document was developed to provide details for posting of signs and or placards in accordance with 2010 Fire Code of New York State National Fire Protection Association - Chapter 704. This guideline specifies the design and placement of hazardous materials identification signs on property and within structures in which hazardous materials and hazardous wastes are stored, used, processed or handled.

### **Requirements**

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#### **Applicability**

Hazardous materials identification signs shall be required as specified in the Fire Code of New York State. In general, signs are required when the quantities of hazardous materials at a single site are sufficient to warrant the issuance of a fire code operational permit. Additionally, it is typical to placard with the numerals representing the highest hazard per classification, in the building or area, unless otherwise directed by the Fire Marshal.

- a. This standard is applicable to industrial, commercial, and institutional facilities that manufacture, process, use or store hazardous materials.
- b. This standard is not applicable to transportation or to use by the general public.
- c. This standard is not applicable to chronic exposure or to non-emergency occupational exposure.

#### **Placards**

The NFPA 704 placarding system is intended to provide emergency response personnel with information about the relative hazards of hazardous materials within a facility, which allows emergency response personnel to formulate a more effective, timely response to an emergency incident at the facility.

1. At all main entrances to facilities and buildings that use, store or process hazardous materials or reporting quantities.
2. On entry gates or fences to facilities, buildings and exterior storage areas.
3. At the entrances to inside storage rooms or designated storage areas.
4. Entrances to cylinder (pressurized or cryogenic) storage areas.
5. On all parked trailers and/or cargo vehicles and shipping containers (see transport containers) which are used for temporary and/or permanent storage of hazardous materials

## Labels

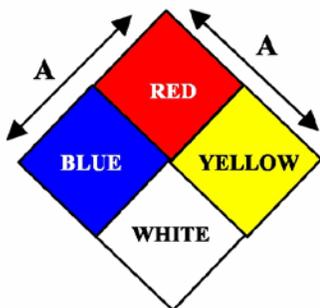
1. On all drums and/or tanks 30 gallon capacity or larger.
2. On all approved storage cabinets.
3. On all pressurized cylinders greater than 200 cu. Ft. capacity.
4. On all liquefied gases in excess of 150 gallon capacity.

## Placard and Label Specifications

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1. All labels and placards shall utilize the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) color coded hazard warning system.
2. The numerical hazard rating shall comply with NFPA hazard rating index shown in Figure 2. The hazard rating may be designated reviewing the Material Safety Data sheets or by contacting the Office of the Fire Marshal.
3. Placards and labels shall be constructed of weather proof/resistant backings and materials.
4. Dimensions shall not be less than that specified in Figure 1.
5. The numerical hazard rating shall be black in color.
6. Diamond colors shall be blue, red, yellow and white representing Health, Fire, Reactivity and Other, respectively as indicated in Figure 1.
7. Additional information should be included in the white diamond of the placard, when necessary to indicate special information about the hazards. See special abbreviation section in Figure 3.
8. The color of diamonds on the placard shall be as indicated in Figure 1.

**Figure 1**



DIMENSIONS IN INCHES				
	A	H	W	T
<b>Placards</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3/4</b>
<b>Labels</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3/8</b>

**Figure 3**

<b>CORROSIVES</b>	<b>= OXY</b>
<b>ACIDS</b>	<b>= COR</b>
<b>RADIOACTIVE WATER</b>	<b>= ACID</b>
	<b>= RAD</b>
<b>REACTIVE EXPLOSIVE</b>	<b>= W</b>
<b>EXPLOSIVES</b>	<b>= EXP</b>
<b>PYROPHORIC</b>	<b>= PYR</b>
<b>POISON</b>	<b>= TOX</b>

**Identification of Health Hazard**  
Color Code: Blue

**Identification of Flammability**  
Color Code: Red

**Identification of Reactivity**  
(Stability) Color Code: Yellow

Signal	Type of Possible Injury	Signal	Susceptibility of Materials to Burning	Signal	Susceptibility to Release of
<b>4</b>	Materials that on very short exposure could cause death or major residual injury.	<b>4</b>	Materials that will rapidly or completely vaporize at atmospheric pressure and normal ambient temperature, or that are readily dispersed in air and that will burn readily.	<b>4</b>	Materials that in themselves is readily capable of detonation or of explosive decomposition or reaction at normal temperatures and pressures.
<b>3</b>	Materials that on short exposure could cause serious temporary or residual injury.	<b>3</b>	Liquids and solids that can be ignited under almost all ambient temperature conditions	<b>3</b>	Materials that in themselves are capable of detonation or explosive decomposition or reaction but require a strong initiating source or which must be heated under confinement before initiation or which react explosively with water.
<b>2</b>	Materials that on intense or continued but not chronic exposure could cause temporary incapacitation or possible residual injury	<b>2</b>	Materials that must be moderately heated or exposed to relatively heated or exposed to relatively high ambient temperatures before ignition can occur.	<b>2</b>	Materials that readily undergo violent chemical change at elevated temperatures and pressures or which react violently with water or which may form explosive mixtures with water.
<b>1</b>	Materials that on exposure would cause irritation but only minor residual injury.	<b>1</b>	Materials that must be pre-heated before ignition can occur.	<b>1</b>	Materials that in themselves are normally stable, but which can become unstable at elevated temperatures and pressures.
<b>0</b>	Materials that on exposure under fire conditions would offer no hazard beyond that of ordinary combustible material	<b>0</b>	Materials that will not burn.	<b>0</b>	Materials that in themselves are normally stable, even under fire exposure conditions, and which are not reactive with water.