

Accident Prevention Signs and Tags

Instructions: This checklist is intended to help you identify potential hazards in your workplace. The questions are based on applicable Federal OSHA standards. Keep in mind that additional state and local regulations may apply, depending upon your location. Please check one answer for each question. If you select “no,” you should investigate further to determine what corrective action may be needed to address the hazard. You can review the specific OSHA Standards outlined below at www.osha.gov/law-regs.html. Choose “General Industry” or “Construction.”

	Questions	OSHA Regulation	Yes	No	N/A
	Accident Prevention Tags				
1)	Are accident prevention tags used to alert people to hazards which are temporary, out of the ordinary, unexpected or not readily apparent?	1910.145(f)(3)			
2)	Are biological hazard tags used to identify equipment, containers, rooms, and experimental animals that may include a hazardous biological agent?	1910.145(f)(8)(i)			
3)	Are caution tags used only in situations where a non-immediate or potential hazard or unsafe practice presents a minor threat?	1910.145(f)(6)			
4)	Are danger tags used only in situations where an immediate hazard presents a threat of death or serious injury?	1910.145(f)(5)			
5)	Are tags affixed as close as safely possible to their respective hazards and in a way that prevents their loss or unintentional removal?	1910.145(f)(4)(vi)			
6)	Are warning tags used to represent a hazard level between “Caution” and “Danger?”	1910.145(f)(7)			

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	Accident Prevention Tags				
7)	Do required tags define the specific hazardous condition or the instruction to be communicated, either in words, pictures, or both?	1910.145(f)(4)(iii)			
8)	Do required tags have a signal word of either "Danger," "Caution," "Biological Hazard," "BIO-HAZARD," or the biological hazard symbol?	1910.145(f)(4)(i)(A)			
9)	Has everyone been told what various tags mean and what special precautions are necessary?	1910.145(f)(4)(v)			
10)	Is the tag's signal word and major message understandable to everyone who may be exposed to the hazard?	1910.145(f)(4)(iv)			
	Classification of Signs According to Use				
11)	Are caution signs used only where potential hazards or unsafe practices could exist?	1910.145(c)(2)(i)			
12)	Are danger signs used only where an immediate hazard exists?	1910.145(c)(1)(ii)			
13)	Are safety instruction signs used wherever safety instructions or reminders are needed?	1910.145(c)(3)			
14)	Is the wording of the sign easily read and contain sufficient information to be easily understood?	1910.145(e)(2)			

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	Questions	OSHA Regulation	Yes	No	N/A
	Safety Colors for Marking Physical Hazards				
15)	Are all emergency stop bars and buttons and electrical switches marked with red paint?	1910.144(a)(1)(iii)			
16)	Are safety cans and other cans which contain flammable liquids painted red, with the contents labeled conspicuously in yellow?	1910.144(a)(1)(ii)			
17)	Is yellow used to advise caution?	1910.144(a)(3)			
	Sign Design				
18)	Are danger signs red, black, and white?	1910.145(d)(2)			
19)	Are the ends or heads of bolts or other fastening devices attached in such a way that they do not constitute a hazard?	1910.145(d)(1)			
20)	Do caution signs have a yellow background (with black lettering) and a black panel (with yellow lettering)?	1910.145(d)(4)			
21)	Do safety instruction signs have a white background (with black lettering) and a green panel (with white lettering)?	1910.145(d)(6)			
22)	Do signs have rounded corners, free from sharp edges, burrs, splinters, or other sharp projections?	1910.145(d)(1)			

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