

# Keep Your Family Safe From Household Chemicals



**Chemicals you use in your home can be dangerous to your health and the environment. To keep your family safe, follow these safety tips when you use, store or throw them out.**

## Use and storage tips:

- Follow the instructions on the label when you use and store household chemicals.
- Don't mix products. This can cause deadly gases or cause a fire.
- Store products in their original containers.
- Store anything that can catch on fire away from your home.
- Only fill portable gasoline containers outdoors in an airy area. Make sure to place the container on the ground when you fill it.
- Never store materials that can cause a fire in the sun or near an open flame or heat source.
- Store these materials out of the reach of children and pets.
- Use safety locks and guardrails on shelves and cabinets when you store materials. This will prevent them from falling or tipping.
- Wear gloves or goggles when you use these materials.



## When you need to throw them out:

- Follow the instructions on the label.
- Aerosol cans might contain chemicals that can burn. If you put them in the trash, they can explode or start a fire.
- If you have a spill, clean the area and put the containers in an airy place. If you cannot control the spill, or are unsure about cleanup and disposal, call your local fire department.



For more information and free fire-safety resources, visit [www.usfa.fema.gov](http://www.usfa.fema.gov).

