

**SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY  
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & SAFETY**

**COMMON LABORATORY FLAMMABLE AND COMBUSTIBLE CHEMICALS**

Flammable and combustible chemicals are the most commonly used hazardous chemicals. The hazard of a flammable or combustible chemical is based on its flash point, and, in the case of a flammable chemical, its boiling point as well. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) has identified flammability classes from the flash point and boiling point data of chemicals. The following table lists some common flammable and combustible chemicals, their flash points and boiling points, and associated NFPA flammability classes:

Chemical	Flash Point		Boiling Point		NFPA Class
	°F	°C	°F	°C	
Acetaldehyde	-38	-39	69	21	IA
Dimethyl sulfide	-36	-38	99	37	IA
Ethyl ether	-49	-45	95	35	IA
Ethylene oxide	-20	-29	55	13	IA
Pentane	-57	-49	97	36	IA
Propane	-157	-105	-44	-42	IA
Benzene	12	-11	176	80	IB
Carbon disulfide	-22	-30	115	46	IB
Cyclohexane	-4	-20	179	81	IB
Ethyl alcohol	55	16	173	78	IB
n-Hexane	-7	-22	156	69	IB
Isopropyl alcohol	53	12	180	82	IB
Methyl alcohol	52	11	149	65	IB
Methyl ethyl ketone	16	-9	176	80	IB
Pyridine	68	20	239-241	116	IB
Tetrahydrofuran	6	-14	153	67	IB
Toluene	40	4	231	111	IB
Triethylamine	20	-7	193	89	IB
Tertbutylisocyanate	80	27	185-187	85-86	IC
Chlorobenzene	82	28	270	132	IC
Epichlorohydrin	88	31	239-243	115-117	IC
2-Nitopropane	75	24	249	120	IC
Xylene	81-90	27-32	280-291	138-144	IC
Acetic Acid, glacial	103	39	244	48	II
Bromobenzene	118	48	307-316	153-158	II
Formic Acid	156	69	213	101	II
Morpholine	100	38	263	128	II
Stoddard Solvent	100-140	38-60	300-400	150-200	II
Benzaldehyde	145	63	352	178	IIIA
Cyclohexanol	154	68	322	161	IIIA
Methacrylic Acid	170	77	316	158	IIIA
Nitrobenzene	190	88	412	211	IIIA
Tetrahydronaphthalene	160	71	406	208	IIIA
Benzyl Alcohol	216	101	401	205	IIIB
Caproic Acid	215	102	400	204	IIIB
Ethylene Glycol	232	111	388	198	IIIB
Phenyl Ether	239	115	498	258	IIIB
Stearic Acid	385	196	726	386	IIIB

References: Material Safety Data Sheets and the National Fire Protection Agency document "NFPA 321: Classification of Flammable and Combustible Liquids, 1991 Edition."