But I don’t use chemicals!

Chemicals are used everywhere
– in small companies
– in the home

Are there detergents, bleaches, drain cleaners, weedkillers, disinfectants, in your home?

Do you use degreasers, adhesives, cleaning agents, paints, etc. in your work?

YOU ARE USING CHEMICALS!

Dangers of chemicals

Chemicals are essential for everyday life, in the home and in work. But they can be dangerous. **If not used correctly** they can:
– catch fire
– cause burns
– damage your health
– cause environmental damage

How do I know if a chemical is dangerous?

By law, all products containing dangerous chemicals must have a label. The label tells you about the dangers of the product and how to use it safely.

The poster on the other side of this will help you to understand the information on the label.

Pin it up in your home or workplace

Do’s and Don’ts when using chemicals

Do
study the label

Do
read and follow instructions before use

Do
use any protective clothing which is recommended

Do
keep chemicals out of the reach of children

Don’t
transfer chemicals into unmarked containers

Don’t
use flammable chemicals near sources of ignition

Don’t
throw aerosols onto fires

Don’t
mix chemicals unless you are sure they don’t react

Where do I get more information?

1 your local supplier

2 The manufacturer
   (name, address and telephone number on the bottle)

3 The Health & Safety Authority
   will advise about chemicals in the workplace and about the laws relating to chemicals
   Address: Health & Safety Authority
   10 Hogan Place, Dublin 2
   Telephone: (01) 614 7000
   Fax: (01) 614 7020
   Website: http://www.hsa.ie

   More information on the classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous substances and preparations are available on the Authority’s website (legislation under European Communities Act 1972)

4 The Poisons Information Centre
   provides information to doctors and the general public on the treatment of poisoning or about accidental contact with chemicals
   Address: The National Poisons Information Centre,
   PO Box 1297,
   Beaumont Hospital,
   Beaumont Road,
   Dublin 9.
   Telephone: (01) 837 9966
   Fax: (01) 837 6982

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Health and Safety

The container of all chemical products should have a label. The label will tell you all you need to know to be able to use the chemical safely.

**Tactile Warning**
Roughened or embossed areas which when touched by a blind or partially sighted person alerts them to the dangerous nature of the product.

**S Number Safety Phrases**
Show the safeguards necessary for your protection and what to do in case of an accident.

**R Numbers Risk Phrases**
Show the special risks of the substance and how it gets into the body.

**Contents**
Solvent 80%: Filler 19%
Active ingredient 1%

**R-11-22 S2-16**

**Hazard Warnings**

**Child Resistant Fastening**
To prevent children from opening container which contains very toxic or corrosive product.

**Environment Hazards**

**Remember! Do dispose of empty containers safely**

Some common technical terms which may sometimes be on labels

**Sensitisation**
May cause an allergy (allergic dermatitis or asthma)

**Carcinogen**
May cause cancer

**Harmful or Toxic for Reproduction**
May cause fertility problems or damage the developing baby

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**Health and Safety Authority**