

Undergraduate Lab Safety

Personal Protective Equipment

APPOPRIATE LAB CLOTHING

Always-Long pants/closed toe shoes.

Safety or prescription glasses.

Never-Shorts, skirts or sandals.

When work involves hazardous materials:

- Safety glasses
- Lab coat
- Chemically-resistant gloves

Remember:

- Tie back/up long hair
- Remove lab coats and other PPE when leaving the lab.
- Contact lenses not recommended.



Emergencies



KNOW LOCATIONS OF NEAREST:

- Exits from room and building
- Safety shower
- Emergency eyewash
- Spill response supplies
- Phone
- Fire alarm pull station

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

Medical, Fire, Police:

911 or 203-432-4400

EHS Emergency Line:

203-785-3555

Yale Health Acute Care:

203-432-0123

EHS Main Line:

203-785-3550

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Basic Lab Safety



- Do not work alone in the laboratory.
- Know the hazards of the materials and equipment you will be using prior to beginning your experiment.
- Plan experiments ahead of time, using written procedures. Don't be afraid to ask questions.
- Seek advisor or instructor approval before modifying approved experiments, such as chemical substitution or reaction scale-up.
- Use a fume hood when working with volatile or hazardous materials.



- Never mouth pipette.
- Avoid use of sharps such as needles or glass pipettes if possible. Never recap needles, and dispose of needles in needle boxes and all other sharps in appropriate sharps containers.
- Use a hotplate, heating mantle or heating block instead of an open flame where possible.
- Store all chemicals in approved storage location in the laboratory.
- Protect the environment! Never dispose of hazardous waste down the drain or in the regular trash. Follow guidelines in the Yale Laboratory Waste Disposal Tool (ehs.yale.edu).



- Clean lab work surfaces and equipment at the end of your experiment or procedure.
- Remove PPE and wash hands with soap and water before leaving the laboratory.

Remember: Food and beverages are not allowed in any Yale University laboratory.