

Spill Kits and Spill Kit Inspections

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Risk Assessment

How do you know what cleanup materials are required?

Look at each hazardous material in your workplace then review the following documents. These will help inform you on what type of cleanup materials and training is needed.

- Safety Data Sheet
- Emergency Response Assistance Plans (ERAP)
- Emergency Response Guidebook
- ACGIH publication 2019 Threshold Limit Values for Chemical Substances and Physical Agents & Biological Exposure Indices

Selecting a Spill Kit

There are two things to consider when selecting a spill kit:

- Type of Spill Kit
- Size of Spill Kit

There are 3 standard types of spill kits:

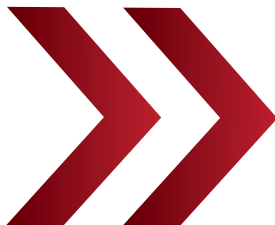
1. Oil Only – Designed to handle hydrocarbons, fuel, and other oil-based products.
2. Universal – Designed to handle most hazardous spills.
3. Hazmat – Designed to handle acid spills and other caustic aggressive chemicals.

Spill kits typically come with a variation of the following:

- Absorbent Pads – Pads are placed directly in contact with the spill for effective absorption.
- Absorbent Socks – To prevent the spread of spilled fluid, socks are used like a dam to contain the spill.
- Personal Protective Equipment – Often includes nitrile gloves, goggles, disposable coveralls, and chemical boots.
- Chemical Bag, Pail or Drum – To properly contain and dispose of the materials used.

Additional items to consider:

- Granular Spill Absorbent
- Poly Drain Cover
- Non-Sparking Shovel
- Plug 'N' Dike Epoxy



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Spill Kit Inspections

It is important to inspect a spill kit to ensure you have the necessary items in an emergency.

How often should a spill kit be inspected?

It is recommended inspect spill kits during the monthly worksite inspection; however, in high-risk environments this frequency should be increased.

A monthly inspection should include the following:

- Spill kit is readily available
- Easily reached (no obstructions)
- Within the working area
- Labels and signs are clear
- All inventory accounted for
- Check that all contents on the inventory list are present.
- Products are in good condition
- Check for signs of use, damage, or expiration.

Make sure to replace any materials that are in poor condition or are missing.

Interested in learning how to conduct a spill kit inspection? Check out [THIS VIDEO](#) put together by the RPM team on how to conduct a spill kit inspection.

Training

All employees working around hazardous materials require training on how to safely respond to a spill. The level of response training is dependent on the type and volume of hazardous materials present in your workplace.



Do you need more information? RPM can help!

RPM offers a number of courses to help support your OHS plan. If this article was valuable to you or others at your organization, you may want to consider the following:

- **[Workplace Inspection Training](#)**: This course will give people the opportunity to explain the requirements and the purpose(s) of a workplace inspection, know what you're looking for and how to identify a hazard, the process of what to do when there are inspection findings, and understand the process for implementing corrective actions and how to monitor and identify trends.
- **[Hazard Identification and Risk Control](#)**: Recognizing what could injure workers on the job is the first step to ensuring that they stay safe. A proactive approach to the mitigation of workplace hazards greatly increases the chance of less severe and lower rates of injury. This course will provide students with the practical knowledge necessary to identify, assess and control the hazardous elements of their workplace so they can do their part in preventing dangerous incidents.
- **[Emergency First Aid: CPR Level C and AED](#)**: This first-aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) course provides the skills needed to recognize and respond to cardiovascular emergencies and choking for Adults, Children and Infants. This course, is provided by RPM Safety and is suitable for workplace requirements.

Please note RPM courses are offered to RPM registered companies only. Your company must be registered with RPM and be in the process of working towards certification or must have achieved the SAFE Work Manitoba Trucking Certificate of Recognition. Not yet registered in the RPM program? Today is a great day to get started!

Please contact RPM by emailing info@rpmsafety.ca or calling 204-632-6600, or by visiting our website www.rpmsafety.ca