



HARVARD

Campus Services

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & SAFETY

RCRA's Chemical Waste Compatibility List

The mixing of Group A materials with Group B materials may have the potential consequences noted.

Group 1-A

Acetylene sludge
Alkaline caustic liquids
Alkaline cleaner
Alkaline corrosive liquids
Alkaline corrosive battery fluid
Caustic wastewater
Lime sludge and other corrosive alkalies
Lime wastewater
Lime and water
Spent caustic

Group 1-B

Acid sludge
Acid and water
Battery acid
Chemical cleaners
Electrolyte, acid
Etching acid liquid or solvent
Pickling liquor & other corrosive acids
Spent acid
Spent mixed acid
Spent sulfuric acid

Potential consequences: Heat generation; violent reaction

Group 2-A

Aluminum
Beryllium
Calcium
Lithium
Magnesium
Potassium
sodium
Zinc powder
Other reactive metals and metal hydroxides

Group 2-B

Any waste in Group 1-A or 1-B

Potential consequences: Fire or explosion; generation of flammable hydrogen gas

Group 3-A

Alcohols
Water

Group 3-B

Any concentrated waste in Groups 1A or 1B
Calcium
Lithium
Metal hydrides
Potassium
SO₂Cl₂, SOCl₂, PCl₃, CH₃SiCl₃
Other water-reactive waste

Potential consequences: Fire, explosion, or heat generation; generation of flammable or toxic gases



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Group 4-A

Alcohols
Aldehydes
Halogenated hydrocarbons
Nitrated hydrocarbons
Unsaturated hydrocarbons
Other reactive organic compounds & solvents

Group 4-B

Concentrated Group 1-A or 1-B wastes
Group 2-A wastes

Potential consequences: Fire, explosion, or violent reaction

Group 5-A

Spent cyanide and sulfide solutions

Group 5-B

Group 1-B wastes

Potential consequences: Generation of toxic hydrogen cyanide or hydrogen sulfide gas

Group 6-A

Chlorates
Chlorine
Chlorites
Chromic acid
Hypochlorites
Nitrates
Nitric acid, fuming
Perchlorates
Permanganates
Peroxides
Other strong oxidizers

Group 6-B

Acetic acid and other organic acids
Concentrated mineral acids
Group 2-A wastes
Group 5-A wastes
Other flammable and combustible wastes

Potential consequences: Fire, explosion, or violent reaction
