

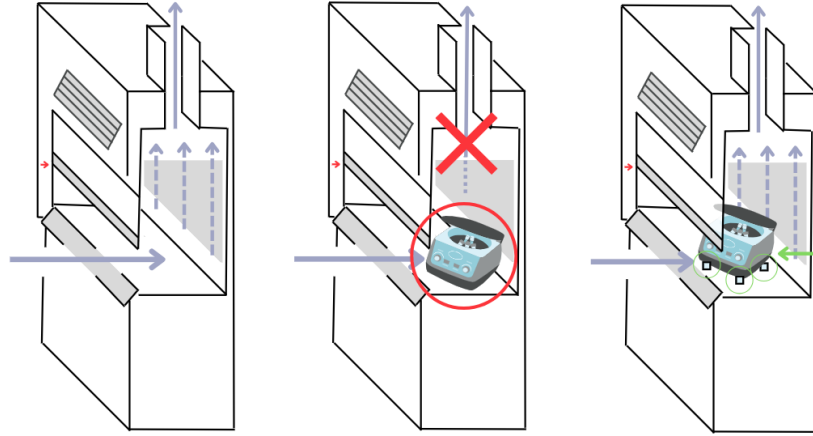


Lab Fume Hood Recommended Work Practices

When operated correctly, a fume hood provides adequate user protection under most working conditions.

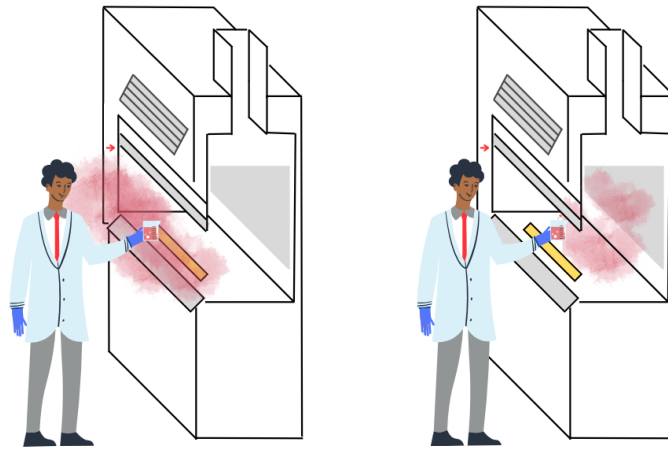
However, containment may be compromised if you don't follow these recommended work practices:

- Use a fume hood for operations that could produce irritating or hazardous vapors or fumes, like volatile, toxic, or smelly chemicals.
- Check if the hood is working by observing the attached digital flow indicator or telltale visual cue like surveyor tape or Kimwipe. If the hood signals an alarm or the telltale is not moving, stop any reactions and immediately notify facilities management.
- Minimize obstructions to the rear baffles to maintain proper airflow inside the hood.
- To prevent unnecessary exposure, keep all chemicals and equipment at least 6 inches behind the face of hood, as marked by the yellow line on the bench surface or sidewall.
- When using a fume hood, always keep the sash at or below the line on the yellow certification sticker. Otherwise, close the sash completely to shield you and everyone in your lab from splashes and projectiles.
- For better airflow, use equipment with legs or use risers to raise tubs and equipment off the work surface to allow smooth airflow underneath. Email ehs_industrial_hygiene@harvard.edu for risers.
- To prevent unwanted fumes circulating throughout the lab space, minimize air turbulence sources at the face of the hood. Sources include foot traffic, fans, nearby doors opening and closing, rapid opening and closing of the sash, using compressed gases, and abrupt arm motions into or out of the hood.
- Never place sparking or ignition sources inside the hood when flammable liquids or gases are present.
- Don't remove the hood sash or panels unless necessary for setting up apparatuses.
- Never put your head inside the hood during operations that generate contaminants.



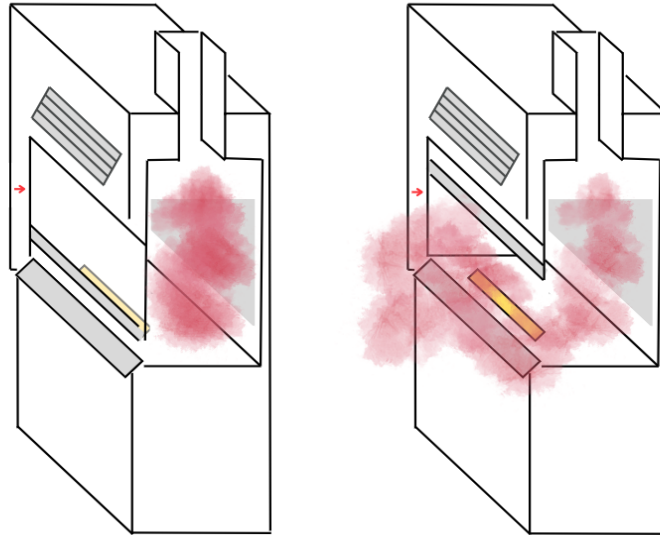
For better airflow, minimize obstructing the rear baffles and place risers under equipment and tubs.

Email ehs_industrial_hygiene@harvard.edu for risers.



To prevent unnecessary exposure, keep all chemicals and fume-generating or vapor-generating equipment at least 6 inches behind the face of the hood.

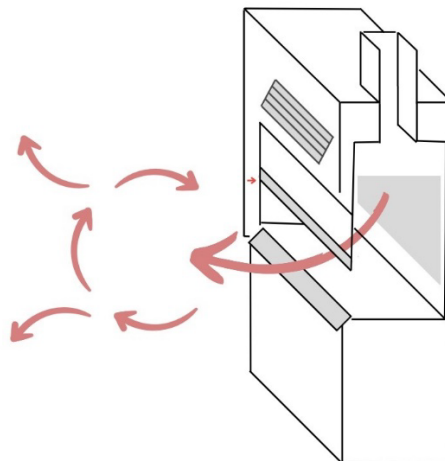
The yellow stripe on the bench surface or side wall is a helpful distance guide.



When using a fume hood, keep the sash at or below the line on the yellow certification sticker. Otherwise, close the sash completely to shield you and everyone in your lab from splashes and projectiles.

Sources of Turbulence

	Nearby foot traffic
	Rapid hand and arm movements
	Nearby doors opening and closing
	Compressed gas use
	Rapid opening and closing of sash



To prevent unwanted fumes circulating throughout the lab space, minimize all sources of air turbulence at the face of the hood.