

GHS Hazard Pictograms

All nine pictograms used on labels and in Section 2 of a Safety Data Sheet. Post at point of use; keep with the written hazard communication program.



GHS01

Exploding Bomb

Explosives · self-reactive substances
Types A–B · organic peroxides Types
A–B

SIGNAL · DANGER / WARNING



GHS02

Flame

Flammable gases, aerosols, liquids &
solids · pyrophorics · self-heating ·
water-reactive

SIGNAL · DANGER / WARNING



GHS03

Flame Over Circle

Oxidizing gases, liquids and solids

SIGNAL · DANGER / WARNING



GHS04

Gas Cylinder

Gases under pressure · chemicals
under pressure

SIGNAL · WARNING



GHS05

Corrosion

Skin corrosion · serious eye damage ·
corrosive to metals

SIGNAL · DANGER / WARNING



GHS06

Skull & Crossbones

Acute toxicity (oral, dermal,
inhalation) Categories 1–3

SIGNAL · DANGER



GHS07

Exclamation Mark

Acute toxicity Cat. 4 · skin/eye
irritation · skin sensitization ·
narcotic effects

SIGNAL · WARNING



GHS08

Health Hazard

Carcinogenicity · mutagenicity ·
reproductive toxicity · STOT ·
aspiration · respiratory sensitization

SIGNAL · DANGER / WARNING



GHS09

Environment

Hazardous to the aquatic
environment — acute and long-term

SIGNAL · WARNING / NONE

What Triggers Each Pictogram

PICTOGRAM	HAZARD CLASSES AND CATEGORIES	SIGNAL WORD	HAZARD STATEMENTS
 GHS01	Explosives — Unstable; Div. 1.1–1.4; Cat. 1, 2A, 2B. Self-reactive substances & mixtures Types A, B. Organic peroxides Types A, B.	DANGER WARNING	H200–H211, H240, H241
 GHS02	Flammable gases 1A/1B, aerosols 1–2, liquids 1–3, solids 1–2. Self-reactive Types C–F. Pyrophoric liquids/solids 1. Self-heating 1–2. Emits flammable gas with water 1–3. Organic peroxides C–F. Desensitized explosives 1–4.	DANGER WARNING	H220–H232, H241–H242, H250–H261, H282–H283
 GHS03	Oxidizing gases Cat. 1. Oxidizing liquids and oxidizing solids Cat. 1–3.	DANGER WARNING	H270, H271, H272
 GHS04	Gases under pressure — compressed, liquefied, refrigerated liquefied, dissolved. Chemicals under pressure Cat. 1–3 (with GHS02 for Cat. 1–2).	WARNING	H280, H281, H282–H284
 GHS05	Skin corrosion Cat. 1, 1A–1C. Serious eye damage Cat. 1. Corrosive to metals Cat. 1 (Warning).	DANGER WARNING	H290, H314, H318
 GHS06	Acute toxicity — oral, dermal or inhalation — Cat. 1, 2 and 3.	DANGER	H300, H301, H310, H311, H330, H331
 GHS07	Acute toxicity Cat. 4. Skin irritation Cat. 2. Eye irritation Cat. 2A. Skin sensitization Cat. 1, 1A, 1B. STOT — single exposure Cat. 3 (respiratory irritation, narcotic effects). Hazardous to the ozone layer Cat. 1.	WARNING	H302, H312, H315, H317, H319, H332, H335, H336, H420
 GHS08	Respiratory sensitization Cat. 1. Germ cell mutagenicity, carcinogenicity, reproductive toxicity Cat. 1, 2. STOT — single and repeated exposure Cat. 1, 2. Aspiration hazard Cat. 1, 2.	DANGER WARNING	H304, H305, H334, H340, H341, H350, H351, H360, H361, H370–H373
 GHS09	Hazardous to the aquatic environment — acute Cat. 1; long-term Cat. 1 and 2. No signal word for long-term Cat. 2.	WARNING NONE	H400, H410, H411

Under OSHA HazCom, GHS09 is not required

Environmental hazards fall outside OSHA's jurisdiction, so the environment pictogram and its H400-series statements are **non-mandatory** on US workplace labels and SDSs. They are required in the EU under CLP and by most non-US regimes — if you ship internationally, classify for them anyway.

Precedence, Format & Placement

Precedence — when two pictograms compete

1. If the **skull and crossbones** (GHS06) applies, the **exclamation mark** (GHS07) is **not** used.
2. If the **corrosion** pictogram (GHS05) applies, GHS07 is **not** used for skin or eye irritation.
3. If the **health hazard** pictogram (GHS08) applies for **respiratory sensitization**, GHS07 is **not** used for skin sensitization or for skin/eye irritation.
4. For self-reactive substances and organic peroxides **Types A and B**, use GHS01 — not GHS02 — even though they are also flammability hazards.

Format specification

Shape	Square set at a point (diamond)
Frame	Red, wide enough to be clearly visible
Symbol	Black
Background	White
Size	At least 1/16 of the label surface; never smaller than 10 × 10 mm

Blank red frames are prohibited. A diamond with a red border and no symbol may not appear on a shipped container under 29 CFR 1910.1200.

Where pictograms appear

- ☐ **Shipped container labels** — pictogram, signal word, hazard statements, precautionary statements, product identifier, supplier information.
- ☐ **SDS Section 2** — Hazard identification. The pictogram may be reproduced graphically, in black and white, or named in text (e.g. "flame over circle").
- ☐ **Workplace labels** — pictograms are one accepted option; alternatives are permitted if they convey the same information.
- ☐ **Transport** — where a DOT placard or label is required on the outer package, the corresponding GHS pictogram for the *same* hazard is not displayed alongside it.

Common findings in audits

- ☐ Pictogram present but the matching hazard statement is missing from Section 2 of the SDS.
- ☐ GHS07 retained on a label that also carries GHS06 or GHS05 — a precedence error.
- ☐ Pictograms reduced below the 1/16-of-label minimum on small containers; use a fold-out or tie-on tag instead.
- ☐ Red frame reproduced in black on a monochrome label printer — the frame must print red on shipped containers.
- ☐ GHS04 omitted for a liquefied gas because the container is small; the class, not the volume, drives the pictogram.

Rev. 11 note — new global-warming hazard class

GHS Rev. 11 (2025) adds **Hazardous by contributing to global warming** (H421), assigned the exclamation mark and the signal word Warning. It is not yet adopted into 29 CFR 1910.1200; treat it as forward-looking when writing SDSs for markets that adopt Rev. 11.

















