

EMPLOYEE TRAINING RECORD

TRAINING TITLE Chlorine Bleach - Cleaner or Killer

KEY TEACHING POINTS

- Ignorance about the lethal effects of mixing common chlorine bleach with other cleaners disables thousands of California workers every year.
- The danger is well known, yet there is always someone who mistakenly believes a mixture of two powerful cleaners does a better and faster job. That's just not so. The truth is that such mixtures can do a great deal of harm.
- Mixing chlorine bleaches with certain other household cleaners containing an acid gives off chlorine gas, a deadly killer. Mixing chlorine bleaches with cleaners containing ammonia gives off chloramine, an irritating gas nearly as deadly as chlorine.
- Custodians, maintenance and clean-up crews, housewives, and anyone working with chemical cleaners should use them with strict caution. They should first check the label on containers for 'Danger,' 'Warning,' and 'Caution' alerts that must be indicated when the material is potentially harmful. If the label lists chlorine bleach (sodium hypochlorite) as one substance in the cleaner, then never mix that cleaner with any other containing an acid (plain vinegar, some toilet bowl cleaners, and some abrasives or cleansers) or with an alkaline substance (ammonia, lye, and some abrasives or cleansers). If the container of cleaning substances are not labeled, then don't use them until you know what they contain.
- When a worker is overcome by gasses like chlorine or chloramine, move them into fresh air and summon medical help. Breathing these gasses can cause severe upper respiratory distress and interfere with breathing, irritate eyes and nose cause unconsciousness, and may even lead to death if the victim is not treated immediately.
- Remember that mixing cleaners rarely produces a product that does a better job. Most of these combinations neutralize or dilute one another. The combination of chlorine bleach with an acid or an alkali can even kill.

TEST

QUESTION	ANSWERS	
	TRUE	FALSE
1 A mixture of two powerful cleaners does a better and faster job.		
2 Mixing chlorine bleaches with certain other household cleaners containing an acid gives off chlorine gas, a deadly killer.		
3 Mixing chlorine bleaches with cleaners containing ammonia gives off chloramine, an irritating gas nearly as deadly as chlorine.		
4 When a worker is overcome by gasses like chlorine or chloramine, move them into fresh air and summon medical help.		
5 Never mix chlorine bleach with any other cleaner containing an acid (plain vinegar, some toilet bowl cleaners, and some abrasives or cleansers) or with an alkaline substance (ammonia, lye, and some abrasives or cleansers).		
EMPLOYEE'S NAME	EMPLOYEE'S SIGNATURE	DATE
INSTRUCTOR'S NAME	INSTRUCTOR'S SIGNATURE	DATE