Flammable & Combustible Classifications

All chemicals need proper storage.

When evaluating your hazmat storage needs, consider these flammable and combustible classifications*:

Flammables

A flammable liquid is any liquid having a flashpoint below 100° F (38°C). However, the exception to this is any mixture having components with flashpoints of 100° F, or higher, when such components make up at least 99% of the mixtures volume. The flashpoint is the lowest temperature at which a flammable liquid will give off enough vapor to ignite briefly when exposed to a flame.

Flammable liquids are referred to as Class 1 Liquids. Class 1 Liquids are separated into the following three categories:

Class 1A - Liquids that have flashpoints below 73° F (22.8° C), and a boiling point below 100° F (37.8° C). Examples of this class are Ethyl Ether and Pentane.

Class 1B - Liquids that have flashpoints below 73° F (22.8° C), and a boiling point of at least 100° F (37.8° C). Examples of this class are Acetone, Gasoline and MEK

Class 1C - Liquids that have flashpoints above 73° F (22.8° C), and below 100° F (37.8° C). Examples of this are Turpentine and Xylene.

Combustibles

A combustible is a liquid having a flashpoint of at least 100° F (37.8° C).

Combustibles are divided into two classes:

Class II Combustibles - Liquids that have a flashpoint of at least 100° F (38° C), and below 140° F (60° C). However, the exception to this is any mixture having components with flashpoints of 200° F (93.3° C), when such components make up at least 99% of the total volume of the mixture. Examples of this class are Kerosene and most Oil Based Paints.

Class III Combustibles - Liquids with flashpoints of at least 140° F (60° C). Class III combustibles are divided into these two subcategories:

> **Class IIIA Combustibles** - Liquids having a flashpoint of at least 140° F (60° C), and below 200° F (93.3° C). However, the exception to this is any mixture having components with flashpoints of 200° F (93.3° C) or higher, when such components make up at least 99% of the total volume of the mixture. An example of this is Mineral Spirits.
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> **Class IIIB Combustibles** - Liquids having a flashpoint of at least 200° F (93.3° C). Examples of this class are Hydraulic Brake/Transmission Fluids and Lubrication Oils.

*NFPA 30