

SPILL CLEANUP QUICK REFERENCE

This table provides a synopsis of clean-up materials recommended for use in cleaning up spills of various chemical types. This list should be expanded to add any chemicals that are not listed or that require special procedures. The Material Safety Data Sheet ([MSDS](#)) for the particular chemical spilled is a preferable reference and will take precedence over this reference, if different.

Chemical Spilled	Clean-Up Procedures
Acids, organic	Apply sodium bicarbonate. Adsorb with spill pillow or vermiculite.
Acids, inorganic	Apply sodium bicarbonate/Calcium Oxide or sodium carbonate/calcium oxide. Adsorb with spill pillow or vermiculite. NOTE: Hydrofluoric acid is an exception to the general practice, see below.
Acid Chlorides	Do not use water. Absorb with sand or sodium bicarbonate.
Aldehydes	Absorb with spill pillow or vermiculite.
Aliphatic Amines	Apply sodium bisulfite. Adsorb with spill pillow or vermiculite.
Aromatic Amines	Absorb with spill pillow or vermiculite. Avoid skin contact or inhalation.
Aromatic Halogenated Amines	Absorb with spill pillow or vermiculite. Avoid skin contact or inhalation.
Azides	Absorb with spill pillow or vermiculite. Neutralize with 10% ceric ammonium nitrate solution.
Bases (caustic alkalis)	Neutralize with acid, citric acid, or commercial chemical neutralizers. Absorb with spill pillow or vermiculite.
Carbon Disulfide	Adsorb with spill pillow or vermiculite.
Chlorohydrins	Absorb with spill pillow or vermiculite. Avoid skin contact or inhalation.
Cyanides	Cover solids with damp paper towel and push onto dust pan or use a HEPA filter vacuum to collect the solids. Absorb liquids with spill pillow or vermiculite.
Halides, organic or inorganic	Apply sodium bicarbonate.
Halogenated Hydrocarbons	Absorb with spill pillows or vermiculite.
Hydrazine	Avoid organic matter. Apply "slaked lime". Adsorb with spill pillow or vermiculite.
Hydrofluoric Acid	Absorb with calcium carbonate (limestone) or lime (calcium oxide) rather than sodium bicarbonate. Using sodium bicarbonate leads to the formation of sodium fluoride, which is considerably more toxic than calcium fluoride. Take care using spill pillows to absorb the acid. Some pillows contain silicates which are incompatible with hydrofluoric acid.

Inorganic Solutions	Salt	Apply soda ash
Mercaptans/Organic Sulfides		Neutralize with calcium hypochlorite solution. Absorb with spill pillow or vermiculite.
Nitriles		Sweep up solids. Absorb liquids with spill pillows or vermiculite.
Nanoparticles		Pick up particles with a HEPA or ULPA filtered vacuum.
Nitro compounds/Organic Nitriles		Absorb with spill pillow or vermiculite. Avoid skin contact or inhalation.
Oxidizing Agents		Apply sodium bisulfite.
Peroxides		Absorb with spill pillow or vermiculite.
Phosphates, organic and related		Absorb with spill pillow or vermiculite.
Reducing Substances		Apply soda ash or sodium bicarbonate.