STORING HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

FLAMMABLE CABINETS
✓ Flammable solvents, e.g. ethanol, acetone, methanol
✗ NO toxic solvents, e.g. chloroform, dichloromethane
✗ NO flammable solids
‼ NO oxidisers or organic peroxides

TOXIC CABINETS
✓ Toxic solvents, e.g. chloroform, dichloromethane
✓ Other toxic liquids
‼ Ensure cabinet is kept locked if storing GHS Category 1 acutely toxic chemicals

CORROSIVES CABINETS
‼ Many corrosive substances are incompatible
‼ Use different cabinets for acids and bases
‼ Separate organic and inorganic chemicals
‼ Separate concentrated nitric and perchloric acids from other acids
‼ Never store nitric acid and acetic acid in the same cabinet

LABORATORY FRIDGES
✓ Use purpose-built laboratory fridges
✓ Label ‘No food or drink’
✓ Label fridges used to store chemicals, biological materials and/or radioactive sources
✓ Segregate materials by dangerous goods class
‼ Fridges can be a source of ignition – separate from flammable liquids and gases
‼ Don’t store flammables in the fridge unless it has been designed for flammable storage

LOW-HAZARD CHEMICAL STORAGE SPACES
✓ Segregate chemicals by dangerous goods class, e.g. use plastic trays or separate storage areas
✓ Store non-hazardous chemicals alphabetically by name
✓ Store solids above liquids
‼ Remember to separate flammables and oxidisers

GAS CYLINDERS
✓ Minimise volumes used in laboratory, e.g. use the smallest cylinder practical, remove cylinders not in use
✓ Restrain cylinders from falling
‼ Consider the need for gas monitoring
‼ Regularly maintain and replace gas regulators and check connections and gas line