

Flammable liquids storage cabinets



Flammable and combustible liquids are a significant fire-load hazard for any business. To limit the potential for a serious fire event, these liquids should be stored safely and properly. This resource serves to define what a flammable storage cabinet is and how they should be used.

The purpose of a flammable liquids storage cabinet is to prevent flammable and combustible liquids from becoming involved in a fire. In the event of a large-scale fire, the flammable liquids stored inside a building may become involved, however, storing them properly will help prevent the escape and ignition of vapors.

- The volume of class I, class II, and class IIIA liquids shall not exceed 120 gallons in any individual storage cabinet.
- Total volume of class I, class II, and class IIIA liquids in a group of storage cabinets shall not exceed the maximum allowable quantity (MAQ) for the control area based on occupancy where cabinets are located.
- Flammable liquids cabinets should be listed by a nationally recognized testing lab such as UL or FM showing that the cabinet meets requirements of NFPA 30.
- Storage cabinets are not required to be ventilated.
 - The vent opening should be sealed with the bungs provided or suggested by the manufacturer if not ventilated.
 - When venting is required, it should be ducted directly to a safe location or to a treatment device.
- Storage cabinets must have the following markings:
 - Letters should be in all caps with a minimum letter height of 2 inches for “FLAMMABLE” and 1 inch for “KEEP FIRE AWAY.” Letters should be a contrasting color to the background.
- Can also use other languages or international symbols.
 - Markings should be located on the upper portion of the cabinet’s front door(s) or frame, where it can be seen when opening.



The information in this document is based on NFPA standards included NFPA 30 (2018); refer to that organization for full information on flammable liquids storage cabinets.