

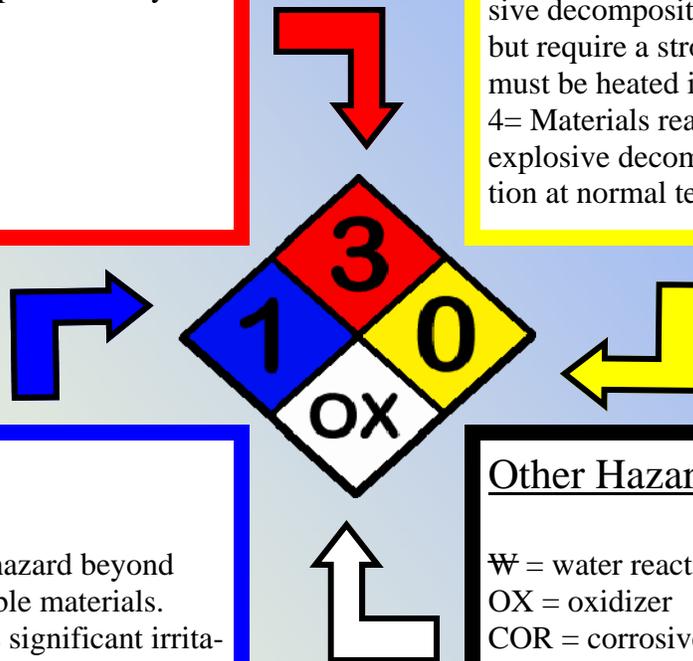
## HOW TO READ A NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION (NFPA) DIAMOND

### Flammability Hazard

- 0= Will not burn
- 1= Must be considerably pre heated to ignite.
- 2= Must be moderately heated or exposed to high ambient temperatures to ignite.
- 3= Capable of igniting under most ambient conditions.
- 4= Easily ignite, or ignite spontaneously in air.

### Instability Hazard

- 0= Normally stable even under fire conditions.
- 1= Normally stable materials that can become unstable at elevated temperatures and pressures.
- 2= Materials that readily undergo violent chemical change at elevated temperatures and pressures.
- 3= Materials capable of detonation, explosive decomposition, or explosive reaction, but require a strong initiating source, or must be heated in confinement.
- 4= Materials readily capable of detonation, explosive decomposition, or explosive reaction at normal temps and pressures.



### Health Hazard

- 0= Materials that offer no hazard beyond that of ordinarily combustible materials.
- 1= Materials that can cause significant irritation.
- 2= Materials that can cause temporary incapacitation or residual injury.
- 3= Materials that can cause serious or permanent injury.
- 4= Materials that can be lethal.

### Other Hazards

- W = water reactive
- OX = oxidizer
- COR = corrosive
- ACID= acidic
- ALK= alkaline or caustic
- = radioactive



These are examples; other symbols may be present.

The NFPA 704 diamond is a standard used to warn firefighters and other emergency responders of the hazards they would be exposed to in a fire or chemical spill situation.

This diamond symbol may be seen anywhere a chemical is being stored, transported, or used. For example, if a truck or train is transporting chemicals, you may see the NFPA diamond. Take note of your building or work area, if there are chemicals around make sure a NFPA diamond is posted and know how to interpret it.

The colors indicate the type of hazard and the numbers indicate the degree of hazard.

If you need assistance in understanding the meaning of these labels, please contact the SOSC IH intern.