



# Safety Tip of the Week

*Your Safety Is Our Business®*

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## Compressed Gas Safety

Compressed gas cylinders contain a great deal of energy. If the cylinders are mishandled or treated roughly, that energy can burst into an explosion – especially if the shut-off valve isn't covered. If the cylinder ruptures or the valve breaks off, that pressure is released suddenly and destructively.

One more hazard of a compressed gas cylinder is that it may contain a highly flammable substance such as acetylene or it may contain oxygen that can cause a fire to accelerate out of control.



### Many gases we work with present special dangers:

- Toxic gases like Carbon Monoxide and Phosgene can be poisonous.
- Many gases are flammable and can be ignited by sparks or other ignition sources.
- Oxidizers, like Fluorine and Oxygen, can also cause fires and explosions.
- Corrosives, such as Chlorine, can burn the skin and cause other damage.
- Some gases, such as Nitrogen and Helium, can push breathable air completely out of a room.

### Things Not To Do:

- Never roll a cylinder to move it.
- Never carry a cylinder by the valve.
- Never leave an open cylinder unattended.
- Never leave a cylinder unsecured.
- Never force improper attachments on to the wrong cylinder.
- Never grease or oil the regulator, valve, or fittings of an oxygen cylinder.
- Never refill a cylinder.
- Never use a flame to locate gas leaks.
- Never attempt to mix gases in a cylinder.
- Never discard pressurized cylinders in the normal trash.

**Make safety a reality...don't be a fatality!!**