

THE COLOR OF SAFETY



Basic Crafts Workers Compensation Trust

265 Hegenberger Road, Suite 240

Oakland, CA 94621

(510) 568-5920, (510) 568-5279 Fax

Here's a question you don't hear every day: what color is safety? Funny you should ask, because an answer has been designed! *(Try Quizzing the crews to see if they know the answers)*

Color	Meaning	Application
RED	Danger or Stop	Safety cans, signs. Emergency stop bar or button on machinery. Identification of fire equipment.
FLUORESCENT ORANGE, ORANGE-RED	Bio-Safety	Labels and containers for blood and infectious waste. (Warning labels must be fluorescent orange or orange-red with the biosafety symbol in a contrasting color.)
YELLOW	Caution	Tripping, falling and striking hazards. "Flammable, Keep Fire Away" labels on cabinets. Safety cans, containers for explosives, corrosives or unstable materials.
ORANGE	Warning	Parts of machinery or energized equipment that may cut, crush or otherwise injure. Inside of transmission guards for pulleys, gears, etc.
GREEN	Safety	Location of first aid equipment. Location of safety equipment; respirators, safety showers, etc.
BLUE	Information	Signs, bulletin boards. Specific railroad warnings against starting, using or moving equipment being repaired.
BLACK, WHITE, YELLOW OR COMBINATION OF BLACK WITH WHITE OR YELLOW	Boundaries	Traffic or housekeeping markings. Stairways, directions and borders.
MAGENTA OR PURPLE ON YELLOW	Radiation Caution	X-ray, alpha, beta, gamma, neutron and proton radiation.

The American National Standards Institute have developed these industry-accepted standards for color usage within the workplace. Consistent color usage is an effective method of getting the point across without words. Think about it: green means Nothing runs like a Deere; yellow means Caterpillar; orangy-red means Kubota. The same idea applies to the colors listed above. Red means Stop in so many different ways! Color-blocking in our work place is the first step to identifying what you're seeing.