

Hazmat placards are color-coded to provide immediate identification of the type of hazard present. These placards are standardized by the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) and are used globally with slight variations depending on regional regulations. Here's a brief overview of the common colors and what they signify:

1. **Red:** Flammable materials (e.g., flammable liquids, flammable solids, flammable gases). The red color indicates a fire hazard.
2. **Orange:** Explosives. This color warns of a potential explosion hazard.
3. **Yellow:** Oxidizers and reactive materials. These substances can cause or enhance the combustion of other materials.
4. **Green:** Non-flammable gases. These are gases that do not burn but may still pose a risk due to pressure or asphyxiation.
5. **Blue:** Dangerous when wet. These materials react violently with water.
6. **White:** Health hazard or poison. These can be toxic substances or infectious materials.
7. **Black and White Stripes:** Miscellaneous dangerous substances. These are hazardous materials that do not fall into other categories but still pose a significant risk.
8. **White with Red or Black:** Radioactive materials. The white background with a specific symbol and color coding indicates the level of radioactivity.

These placards also include specific hazard symbols and UN identification numbers to further detail the nature of the hazard, aiding in proper handling and emergency response.