

# INORGANIC BASES

## Hazard Description

Inorganic bases normally contain a hydroxide group and accept hydrogen ions from other substances. Their general action is the corrosion of metals and destruction of living tissue.

When handling corrosive chemicals, the eyes and skin are most commonly at risk, however failure to use proper protective equipment and handling procedures can result in exposures to the respiratory and digestive tract through inhalation and ingestion.

## Examples

- Sodium hydroxide
- Potassium hydroxide
- Ammonium hydroxide

## Storage

- Inorganic bases can be kept on the same shelf and in the same cabinet as organic bases.
- Inorganic bases should be separated from inorganic acids, ideally in a different cabinet in at a minimum on a different shelf in secondary containment.
- Inorganic bases should **not** be stored with organic acids.

## Hazardous Waste

- Must be disposed of as per the [University's Hazardous Waste Standard](#).

