

# Risk Assessment Guidance

## Title

Hot Torch

This risk assessment guidance has been produced for those using gas torches within workshops.

There are hazards associated with the use of this equipment and they should always be used by people who have reviewed and understood this risk assessment.



Job Sequence	Hazard Identification	Controls
Conduct pre-operational checks	Fire and explosion.	<p>Check your equipment including the hose and regulator. If anything is found damaged, do not use it, contact your supervisor.</p> <p>Before starting ensure all hose connections are tight.</p> <p>Make sure you understand how the equipment works before you light the gas torch; you must know how to turn it off.</p>
Lighting the Gas Torch	Fire and explosion, jets of flames, toxic fumes.	<p>Ensure that the gas control valve on the gas torch is in the off position.</p> <p>Hold the Gas torch in a safe position and check that there is nothing near that could catch fire.</p> <p>When trying to light the torch if the Gas does not light within 10 to 15 seconds turn off the valve on the Gas torch. Wait 15 or 20 seconds for the accumulated Gas to disperse then attempt to relight the torch.</p>
Do's and Don't	<p>Fire or Explosion.</p> <p>Flames and burns.</p> <p>Fire and fumes.</p>	<p>Propane Gas is extremely flammable, take care not to cause a fire or explosion.</p> <p>Do not leave gas cylinders in the workshops overnight, ensure you have read and completed the gas cylinder risk assessment.</p> <p>Equipment producing jets of flame can be hazardous if misused take care not to burn yourself or others.</p> <p>Do not indulge in any horseplay or irresponsible behavior while using or working near the gas torch.</p> <p>Do not point the jet of flame at people; you may cause serious burn injuries.</p> <p>Do not use a gas torch to strip paint it is too hot and will burn the wood, the bottom layers of paint could contain lead which produces poisonous fumes when burnt.</p> <p>Do not try to use this gas torch to provide general space heating.</p> <p>Keep non- essential people away from the work area.</p>

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	After use, the nozzle will be hot.	<p>The flame will burn flammable materials, crack glass and melt plastic if it comes into contact with them.</p> <p>Do not touch it or lay it down on flammable material.</p>
Fire watch	Once hot works are completed heated materials can reignite.	<p>Where proposed work is identified as having a high risk, strict controls are required. The work must be carried out against previously agreed safety procedures, a 'permit-to-work' system.</p> <p>Please check that there is a hot work permit in place before you start work, if you are unsure please contact the appointed Health and Safety personnel who will be able to advise.</p> <p>All works must be carried out in accordance with the companies 'Hot Works Permit' Has to be issued by the designated person from the company.</p>
Personal Protective Equipment		<p>The following items of personal protective equipment (PPE) are the minimum that should be worn whenever you use a gas torch. For some tasks or environments there may be additional requirements.</p> <p>You will need to wear appropriate RPE when you are doing work that creates fumes.</p> <p>You must wear Goggles when you are working with this equipment. You should wear safety boots when handling heavy cylinders.</p> <p>Anybody who is working near to you will also need to wear appropriate personal protective equipment which may include RPE dependent of the fumes being created; it is your responsibility to notify others who may be affected by your activities.</p>
First Aid	Burns	<p>Information for the appointed medical personnel support is displayed in workshops.</p> <p>Make sure you are aware of the first aid provisions in place.</p> <p>All accidents &amp; near misses must be reported to your Supervisor</p>

**All persons working with this equipment or within close vicinity must sign and show that they have read and understood the risk assessment guidance and that they will follow the above control measures set out whilst working.**

Additional Guidance	COSHH Assessment	Method Statement	Other (Specify)
Hot works permit Gas cylinders		N/A	Only trained persons are allowed to operate this equipment.
Name			
Signed			Date

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