

HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES, CLASSES AND PROTOCOLS



When it comes to transporting dangerous goods, there are certain rules around how these should be packaged and labelled appropriately, and this is determined by their class. It is the responsibility of the sender for classifying, packaging and marking the goods being shipped

Dangerous goods classes:

Class	Type of material
1	Explosive substances and articles
2.1	Flammable gas (eg butane)
2.2	Non-flammable and non-toxic gases which could cause asphyxiation (eg nitrogen, helium, carbon dioxide) or oxidisers (eg oxygen)
2.3	Toxic gases (eg chlorine, phosgene)
3	Flammable liquids (eg lighter fluid, petrol)
4.1	Flammable solids, self-reactive substances and solid desensitised explosives
4.2	Substances liable to spontaneous combustion
4.3	Substances which, in contact with water, emit flammable gases
5.1	Oxidising substances
5.2	Organic peroxides
6.1	Toxic substances
6.2	Infectious substances
7	Radioactive material
8	Corrosive substances
9	Miscellaneous dangerous substances and articles

For 'limited quantities' of some dangerous goods, the rules are less strict, however limited quantities must be carried in small containers, like bottles for example, and then packed in to boxes (max 30kg) or shrink-wrapped trays (max 20kg).

The mode of transport used for moving dangerous goods will also determine the rules which have to be abided by.

AIR: The internationally agreed rules for transporting dangerous goods by air are covered by the International Air Transport Association (IATA) [International Dangerous Goods Regulations](#).

ROAD: The internationally agreed rules for transporting dangerous goods by road are covered by '[ADR](#)'.

SEA: A 'dangerous goods notification' ([DGN](#)) must be completed for any dangerous goods being sent by sea.

The [International Maritime Dangerous Goods \(IMDG\) code](#) and the [Maritime and Coastguard Agency](#) provide guidance on transporting dangerous goods by sea.