



How to deal with spills

1

Safety comes first.

If anybody is injured or affected, deal with them before dealing with the spill.

2

Identify what has been spilled.

Look for labels and check the Safety Data Sheets (SDS). This will tell you whether you should treat it as a major spill or minor spill.

A major spill is:

- **any amount** of flammable, very toxic products or products that need tracking
- **anything** with a product label says EXTREMELY FLAMMABLE, FATAL, TOXIC, OXIDISER or CORROSIVE
- **more than 200L** of any other chemical or spill.

A minor spill is:

- a spill involving 200L or less of any other chemical or fuel.

Major spills

DO NOT

Try and deal with it yourself

DO

Alert Fire and Emergency New Zealand

DO

Evacuate the area and keep people away

DO

Make sure you have the correct SDS to give to the emergency services

DO

Notify [WorkSafe](#)

Minor spills

DO NOT Let spilt agrichemicals into any storm water drains or body of water

DO Try and stop a leak if it is safe to do so

DO Stop the spill spreading using absorbent material from the spill kit

DO Keep people away who are not involved in cleaning the spill

DO Make sure the correct PPE is worn for cleaning the spill

DO Clean the spill up using your spill kit

DO Dispose of all product and contaminated clean-up materials safely - check the SDS

DO Clean your PPE after use



For more detailed information on cleaning up spills

The regulations

[Regulation 5.7, Health and Safety at Work \(Hazardous Substances\) Regulations 2017](#)

[Regulation 12.7, Health and Safety at Work \(Hazardous Substances\) Regulations 2017](#)

The guidance

[Emergency response](#)