

Here are some best practices for storing common household chemicals



ALWAYS CHECK THE LABEL FIRST

Many household cleaners must be kept in places that meet certain conditions, such as away from heat sources or other types of cleansers. Before storing any household chemicals, always read the label first to make sure you know what they are and what you should or shouldn't do with them.



If your home has children or pets, be sure that your household chemicals are kept where they won't get into them. Keeping chemicals under the sink might seem convenient, but that makes them too easy to be found by curious kids or animals.



CHECK CONTAINERS FOR SIGNS OF LEAKS

If you have had any household chemicals in your home for a while, their containers may have become weak and brittle over the years, leading to dangerous leaks. Check your household chemicals regularly for leaks — especially if you haven't used them in a long time.



LABEL EVERYTHING

Labels may fade or become loose when household chemicals sit for a long time. Also, if you transfer any chemicals to different containers, you might forget what's inside. Make sure your household chemicals are clearly labeled so you know what's inside the containers.



ORGANIZATION IS KEY

Keeping your household chemicals in their proper places is important, which is why it pays to organize them. Use a storage caddy or basket to store household chemicals. This also makes cleaning easier because you'll be able to keep all the cleansers you need for the same room in one place.



KNOW HOW TO

DISPOSE OF CHEMICALS Many household chemicals require special disposal methods to protect public health and the environment. Be sure you know

the proper way to dispose of your unwanted chemicals. Many communities have a hazardous chemical disposal center where chemicals can be reclaimed without risk.