

Safe Compressed Gas Cylinder Safety

Compressed gas cylinders can be a very serious hazard if not handled properly. A cylinder that falls on its side can shoot off like a rocket and tear through concrete walls and seriously injure someone. Mythbusters proved it! Be careful when handling cylinders.

What could go wrong with a compressed gas cylinder?

To prevent unsafe handling these methods must be followed:

1. Never tamper with any safety devices on the valve or cylinder.
2. Always open valves slowly.
3. Never use cylinders for rollers or sawhorses.
4. Never attempt to repair valves or regulators.
5. Do not try to transfer gases from one cylinder to another.
6. Keep a fire extinguisher nearby when handling or working with compressed gas cylinders.
7. Never transport a compressed gas cylinder without the cylinder being secured.



Proper storage of gas cylinders

- Always store compressed gas cylinders in a secure upright position with caps over valves.
- Always store in well ventilated area to avoid inhalation risks.
- Separate oxygen and fuel cylinders by 20 feet or appropriate barrier.
- Avoid storing cylinders in areas of high temperatures (shade works).
- Separate full cylinders from empty ones.
- When in use, keep cylinders secured to a cart designed for that use.
- Remove empty cylinders from the work area.
- Remove regulators after each use for storage.

