



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
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Potassium hydroxide

Synonyms & Trade Names Caustic potash, Lye, Potassium hydrate

CAS No. 1310-58-3	RTECS No. TT2100000 (/niosh-rtecs/TT200B20.html)	DOT ID & Guide 1813 154 (http://wwwapps.tc.gc.ca/saf-sec-sur/3/erg-gmu/erg/guidepage.aspx/guide154/) (http://www.cdc.gov/Other/disclaimer.html) (dry, solid) 1814 154 (http://wwwapps.tc.gc.ca/saf-sec-sur/3/erg-gmu/erg/guidepage.aspx/guide154/) (http://www.cdc.gov/Other/disclaimer.html) (solution)
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Formula KOH	Conversion	IDLH N.D. See: IDLH INDEX (/niosh/idlh/intridl4.html)
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Exposure Limits NIOSH REL : C 2 mg/m ³ OSHA PEL † (nengapdxg.html): none	Measurement Methods NIOSH 7401 (/niosh/docs/2003-154/pdfs/7401.pdf) See: NMAM (/niosh/docs/2003-154/) or OSHA Methods (http://www.osha.gov/dts/sltc/methods/index.html) (http://www.cdc.gov/Other/disclaimer.html)
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Physical Description Odorless, white or slightly yellow lumps, rods, flakes, sticks, or pellets.
 [Note: May be used as an aqueous solution.]

MW: 56.1	BP: 2415° F	MLT: 716°F	Sol(59° F): 107%	VP(1317°F): 1 mmHg	IP: ?
Sp.Gr: 2.04	FLP: NA	UEL: NA	LEL: NA		

Noncombustible Solid; however, may react with H₂O & other substances and generate sufficient heat to ignite combustible materials.

Incompatibilities & Reactivities Acids, water, metals (when wet), halogenated hydrocarbons, maleic anhydride [Note: Heat is generated if KOH comes in contact with H₂O & CO₂ from the air.]

Exposure Routes inhalation, ingestion, skin and/or eye contact

Symptoms irritation eyes, skin, respiratory system; cough, sneezing; eye, skin burns; vomiting, diarrhea

Target Organs Eyes, skin, respiratory system

Personal Protection/Sanitation (See [protection codes \(protect.html\)](#))

Skin: Prevent skin contact

Eyes: Prevent eye contact

Wash skin: When contaminated

Remove: When wet or contaminated

Change: Daily

Provide: Eyewash, Quick drench

First Aid (See [procedures \(firstaid.html\)](#))

Eye: Irrigate immediately

Skin: Water flush immediately

Breathing: Respiratory support

Swallow: Medical attention immediately

Respirator Recommendations

Not available.

[Important additional information about respirator selection \(pgintrod.html#mustread\)](#)

See also: [INTRODUCTION \(/niosh/npg/pgintrod.html\)](#) See ICSC CARD: [0357 \(/niosh/ipcsneng/neng0357.html\)](#)

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Content source: [National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health \(NIOSH\)](#) Education and Information Division

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