General Chemistry Safety Guidelines:

1. Don’t be an idiot.
2. Always read and understand the directions before beginning an activity.
3. Give the teacher your complete attention when instructions are given.
4. Set up and use equipment as described in the lab procedure or by your teacher.
5. Notify teacher if you have any medical conditions that may be affected by lab work.
6. Learn the location and proper use of ALL safety equipment.
7. Do not begin any activity until you are instructed to do so.
8. Do not work in the lab without proper supervision.
9. Clear the lab bench of all materials (except what is needed).
10. Wear protective equipment and clothing (especially safety glasses) whenever working

with chemicals or heat.

1. Tie long hair back.
2. Don’t be an idiot.
3. Wear appropriate clothing for labs (ex. flat, close-toed shoes)
4. Avoid wearing contact lenses in the lab.
5. Never eat or drink in the lab area.
6. Make sure you understand all the safety labels and label all your containers.
7. If any part of your body comes in contact with a chemical, immediately rinse it withwater for at least 10-15 min and have your lab partner inform the teacher.
8. Never put a chemical up to your nose to smell it; use the wafting procedure.
9. Experiments involving poisonous vapors must be conducted in a fume hood.
10. Keep all combustible materials away from open flames.
11. Don’t be an idiot.
12. Dispose of chemical wastes only as instructed by the teacher.
13. Report all injuries or spills to the teacher immediately.
14. Clean up all equipment and chemicals before leaving the lab.
15. Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water after each experiment

Handling Chemicals:

1. Read and double-check labels on chemical bottles before using any chemical.
2. Take only as much as you need.
3. To avoid contamination, do not return any unused chemicals to the stock bottles.
4. When transferring chemicals, hold the containers away from your body.
5. Avoid touching chemicals with your hands. If chemicals do come in contact with your

hands, wash them immediately.

1. Wear gloves when handling concentrated acids and bases.
2. When mixing an acid with water, always add the acid to the water.

Handling Glassware:

1. Carry glass tubing, burrets, pipettes, etc., carry them in a vertical position to minimize

chances of breakage and to avoid stabbing anyone.

1. Place hot glassware on an insulating pad rather than directly on the table.
2. Allow plenty of time for hot glass to cool before touching it so you don’t burn yourself.
3. Remember: Hot glass looks the same as cool glass!
4. Never use your bare hands to clean up broken glass - use a broom and dustpan. Dispose

of the broken glass in the proper broken glass container NOT the garbage can.

1. Never use cracked glassware or broken equipment

Heating Substances:

1. Keep hair and clothing away from open flames.
2. Always turn off burners and hot plates when not in use.
3. Never heat anything unless told to do so.
4. Do not leave anything unattended that is being heated or is visibly reacting.
5. When heating a substance in a test tube, make sure that the mouth of the tube is not

pointed at you or anyone else.

1. Never heat a closed container.

What to do if there is an Injury:

1. Remain calm.
2. Notify teacher immediately.
3. Know how to use the emergency equipment and where it is located.

What to do if there is a Fire:

1. Turn off the gas both at the front and at the station
2. Notify the teacher immediately and listen to their instructions.
3. Use sand or a beaker on small fires.
4. If larger, use the fire extinguisher
	1. Pull the pin
	2. Aim the hose at the BASE of the flames
	3. Squeeze the handle and empty the ENTIRE contents onto the fire
5. If your clothing is on fire DO NOT USE THE FIRE EXTINGUISHER: STOP, DROP, and ROLL and someone should get the fire blanket to wrap around you.
6. Pull fire alarm only if told to do so.