

PRINTMAKING STUDIO SAFETY

The printmaking shop is only to be used by students enrolled in a printmaking class or those who have special permission from the instructor.

An **MSDS** binder is located at the front of the shop. This contains information about all of the chemicals used in the shop.

VENTILATION

The ventilation must be turned on while using the acid room, solvents or the hotplate, and during clean up procedures. The ventilation is always running on the low setting. Turn toggle switch to high when using strong solvents such as Lithotine or V-133. Always use stop-out varnish, mix litho etches and clean your plates, rollers and brushes in front of the vent next to the hotplate.

FIRST AID

There are first aid kits at either end of the shop. There is also a tin of bandages above the sink near the large litho press.

EYEWASH STATION/EMERGENCY SHOWER AREA

For any major accidents, there is an eye wash station and a shower in the acid room.

ACID ETCHING ROOM

Gloves and an apron must be worn when working in the acid room. Skin contact with the ferric chloride should be immediately flooded with water. Always neutralize spent acid with baking soda. Report any spills immediately to the instructor. In the case that acid comes in contact with an eye, flush eye continuously for 15 minutes. A physician should examine any eye injury.

SOLVENTS

Never pour or rinse solvents down the sink. This means Lithotine, Soy Solvent, alcohol, V-133 or stop-out varnish. Use a rag to clean up excess solvent and store used rags in the specified fireproof safety cans. Store all solvents and spray paint in the yellow cabinets marked for flammables. Never leave solvent containers open.

GLOVES

You must always use gloves when using solvents and during cleanup.

LITHO STONES

When moving litho stones, take your time. These are large, heavy slabs of limestone, which become very slippery when wet. Also take care when moving them with the lift as they can slide off with the slightest, quick movement.

HOTPLATE

When using the hotplate, always let everyone in the studio know that it is on. Make sure you turn it off before you leave the studio. This means the toggle switch is in the down position and the temperature dial is at zero.

PRINTMAKING PRESSES

When the presses are properly used they are perfectly safe. Never place your fingers under or near the rollers. Keep your hands away from the press bed or any moving parts when the press is in use. You should only have your hands on the handle or designated areas when operating the presses. Remove jewelry and secure loose clothing or hair that could get caught in the press. *Never force anything through the presses.*

You may only use equipment and areas you have been shown how to use by the instructor. This varies for each class. You will be held liable if you break or damage a piece of equipment through misuse, carelessness or negligence. If you are unsure of how to use a piece of equipment or how to do a particular process, always ask the instructor.

PLATE SHEAR

Always keep your hands in sight when using the plate shear. Have your plate marked for cutting and hold down at the very edge closest to you. Never try and catch your plate from the backside of the shear. The shear is locked to cut only small sized plates and anything larger must be cut during class with the instructor.

OTHER RULES

Do not bring food into the shop.

Do not bring friends, family, children or pets into the shop.

Never, ever smoke in this shop.

Do not wear open toed shoes in the shop.