

# Safety Data Sheet

## Potassium Hydroxide, 40%

**CAROLINA**<sup>®</sup>  
www.carolina.com

### Section 1 Product Description

**Product Name:** Potassium Hydroxide, 40%  
**Recommended Use:** Science education applications  
**Synonyms:** Caustic Potash Solution, Potassium Hydrate  
**Distributor:** Carolina Biological Supply Company  
2700 York Road, Burlington, NC 27215  
1-800-227-1150  
**Chemical Information:** 800-227-1150 (8am-5pm (ET) M-F)  
**Chemtrec:** 800-424-9300 (Transportation Spill Response 24 hours)

### Section 2 Hazard Identification

Classification of the chemical in accordance with paragraph (d) of §1910.1200;

**DANGER**



Toxic if swallowed. Causes severe skin burns and eye damage. Causes serious eye damage. Harmful to aquatic life.

**GHS Classification:**

Skin Corrosion/Irritation Category 1, Serious Eye Damage/Eye Irritation Category 1, Acute Toxicity - Oral Category 3, Hazardous to the aquatic environment - Acute Category 3

### Section 3 Composition / Information on Ingredients

<u>Chemical Name</u>	<u>CAS #</u>	<u>%</u>
Water		60
Potassium Hydroxide		40

### Section 4 First Aid Measures

**Emergency and First Aid Procedures**

**Inhalation:** IF INHALED: Remove victim to fresh air and keep at rest in a position comfortable for breathing.  
**Eyes:** IF IN EYES: Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing.  
**Skin Contact:** IF ON SKIN (or hair): Remove/Take off immediately all contaminated clothing. Rinse skin with water/shower. Wash contaminated clothing before reuse.  
**Ingestion:** IF SWALLOWED: Immediately call a POISON CENTER or doctor/physician. IF SWALLOWED: rinse mouth. Do NOT induce vomiting.

### Section 5 Firefighting Procedures

**Extinguishing Media:** Use dry chemical, CO2 or appropriate foam.  
**Fire Fighting Methods and Protection:** Firefighters should wear full protective equipment and NIOSH approved self-contained breathing apparatus.  
**Fire and/or Explosion Hazards:** Fire or excessive heat may produce hazardous decomposition products.  
**Hazardous Combustion Products:** Potassium Oxide

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## Section 6 Spill or Leak Procedures

### Steps to Take in Case Material Is Released or Spilled:

Exposure to the spilled material may be severely irritating or toxic. Follow personal protective equipment recommendations found in Section 8 of this SDS. Personal protective equipment needs must be evaluated based on information provided on this sheet and the special circumstances created by the spill including; the material spilled, the quantity of the spill, the area in which the spill occurred, and the expertise of employees in the area responding to the spill. Never exceed any occupational exposure limits. Isolate area. Keep unnecessary personnel away.

### Methods for Clean-up

Prevent the spread of any spill to minimize harm to human health and the environment if safe to do so. Wear complete and proper personal protective equipment following the recommendation of Section 8 at a minimum. Dike with suitable absorbent material like granulated clay. Gather and store in a sealed container pending a waste disposal evaluation. Do not flush spill to drain.

## Section 7 Handling and Storage

**Handling:** Do not breathe dust/fume/gas/mist/vapors/spray. Wash thoroughly after handling. Do not eat, drink or smoke when using this product. Avoid release to the environment. Wear protective gloves/protective clothing/eye protection/face protection. Avoid creating and inhaling dust.

**Storage:** Store locked up. Keep container tightly closed in a cool, well-ventilated place.

**Storage Code:** White - Corrosive. Separate acids from bases; separate oxidizer acids from organic acids.

## Section 8 Protection Information

<u>Chemical Name</u>	<u>ACGIH</u>		<u>OSHA PEL</u>	
	<u>(TWA)</u>	<u>(STEL)</u>	<u>(TWA)</u>	<u>(STEL)</u>
Potassium Hydroxide	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

### Control Parameters

#### Engineering Measures:

Local exhaust ventilation or other engineering controls are normally required when handling or using this product to avoid overexposure.

#### Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):

Lab coat, apron, eye wash, safety shower.

#### Respiratory Protection:

Respiratory protection may be required to avoid overexposure when handling this product. General or local exhaust ventilation is the preferred means of protection. Use a respirator if general room ventilation is not available or sufficient to eliminate symptoms. None required where adequate ventilation is provided. If airborne concentrations are above the applicable exposure limits, use NIOSH/MSHA approved respiratory protection.

#### Respirator Type(s):

#### Eye Protection:

Wear chemical splash goggles when handling this product. Additionally, wear a face shield when the possibility of splashing of liquid exists. Have an eye wash station available.

#### Skin Protection:

Avoid skin contact by wearing chemically resistant gloves, an apron and other protective equipment depending upon conditions of use. Inspect gloves for chemical break-through and replace at regular intervals. Clean protective equipment regularly. Wash hands and other exposed areas with mild soap and water before eating, drinking, and when leaving work.

#### Gloves:

Neoprene, Nitrile, Nitrile - Extra Thick (8 mm)

## Section 9 Physical Data

**Formula:** KOH

**Molecular Weight:** 56.10

**Appearance:** Colorless Liquid

**Odor:** None

**Odor Threshold:** No data available

**pH:** 15

**Melting Point:** No data available

**Boiling Point:** No data available

**Flash Point:** No data available

**Flammable Limits in Air:** No data available

**Vapor Pressure:** No data available

**Evaporation Rate (BuAc=1):** No data available

**Vapor Density (Air=1):** No data available

**Specific Gravity:** >1

**Solubility in Water:** Soluble

**Log Pow (calculated):** No data available

**Autoignition Temperature:** No data available

**Decomposition Temperature:** No data available

**Viscosity:** No data available

**Percent Volatile by Volume:** No data available

## Section 10 Reactivity Data

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**Reactivity:** Mildly reactive - See below  
**Chemical Stability:** Stable under normal conditions.  
**Conditions to Avoid:** Exposure to moisture Reaction with water is exothermic.  
**Incompatible Materials:** Water-reactive materials, Acids, Halogenated Hydrocarbons, Metals, Maleic Anhydride, Moisture, Water, Peroxides  
**Hazardous Decomposition Products:** Potassium Oxide  
**Hazardous Polymerization:** Will not occur

## Section 11 Toxicity Data

**Routes of Entry:** Inhalation and ingestion.  
**Symptoms (Acute):** Diarrhea, Coffee Ground Emesis, Vomiting, Respiratory Irritation  
**Delayed Effects:** No data available

### Acute Toxicity:

Chemical Name	CAS Number	Oral LD50	Dermal LD50	Inhalation LC50
Water		Oral LD50 Rat 90000 mg/kg		
Potassium Hydroxide		Oral LD50 Rat 273 mg/kg		

### Carcinogenicity:

Chemical Name	CAS Number	IARC	NTP	OSHA
Potassium Hydroxide		Not listed	Not listed	Not listed

### Chronic Effects:

**Mutagenicity:** No evidence of a mutagenic effect.  
**Teratogenicity:** No evidence of a teratogenic effect (birth defect).  
**Sensitization:** No evidence of a sensitization effect.  
**Reproductive:** No evidence of negative reproductive effects.  
**Target Organ Effects:**  
**Acute:** No information available  
**Chronic:** No information available

## Section 12 Ecological Data

**Overview:** This material is not expected to be harmful to the ecology.  
**Mobility:** No data  
**Persistence:** Dissolved into water  
**Bioaccumulation:** No data  
**Degradability:** No data  
**Other Adverse Effects:** No data

Chemical Name	CAS Number	Eco Toxicity
Water		No data available
Potassium Hydroxide		96 HR LC50 GAMBUSIA AFFINIS 80 MG/L [STATIC]

## Section 13 Disposal Information

**Disposal Methods:** Dispose in accordance with all applicable Federal, State and Local regulations. Always contact a permitted waste disposer (TSD) to assure compliance.  
**Waste Disposal Code(s):** Not Determined

## Section 14 Transport Information

Ground - DOT Proper Shipping Name:	Air - IATA Proper Shipping Name:
UN1814	UN1814
Potassium Hydroxide Solution	Potassium Hydroxide Solution
Class 8	Class 8
P.G. II	P.G. II

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## Section 15

## Regulatory Information

**TSCA Status:** All components in this product are on the TSCA Inventory.

Chemical Name	CAS Number	§ 313 Name	§ 304 RQ	CERCLA RQ	§ 302 TPQ	CAA 112(2) TQ
Potassium Hydroxide		No	1000 lb RQ	1000 lb final RQ (454 kg)	No	No

**California Prop 65:** No California Proposition 65 ingredients

## Section 16

## Additional Information

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The information provided in this (Material) Safety Data Sheet represents a compilation of data drawn directly from various sources available to us. Carolina Biological Supply makes no representation or guarantee as to the suitability of this information to a particular application of the substance covered in the (Material) Safety Data Sheet.

### Glossary

ACGIH	American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists	NTP	National Toxicology Program
CAS	Chemical Abstract Service Number	OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act	PEL	Permissible Exposure Limit
DOT	U.S. Department of Transportation	ppm	Parts per million
IARC	International Agency for Research on Cancer	RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
N/A	Not Available	SARA	Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act
		TLV	Threshold Limit Value
		TSCA	Toxic Substances Control Act
		IDLH	Immediately dangerous to life and health