

SALAMA SAFETY SIGNS®



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SALAMA
TRAFFIC SIGNS

**SALAMA Safety Signs and SALAMA Traffic Signs
are registered Trade Marks and manufactured by**



**SALAMA Safety Signs are in conformity with OSHA
and other international standards in matters of
domestic, industrial, commercial, aerospace and marine safety
awareness.**

**This manual covers safety and hazard awareness, evacuation
and fire fighting equipment.**

This site is regularly being updated with new images, new icon, new symbols and new pictograms. If you would like to contribute any of such image that we have missed out here, you are most welcome for that. Please send your image (preferably in vector) and we shall incorporate them in our bundle.



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Why do we need safety signs ?



We see signs everywhere. When on the street, it tells us where to pass. When we are in the park, it reminds us to clean after our pets. If we visit unfamiliar territories, it warns us of the danger in the area. Signs are very helpful. However, many ignore it.

There are people who still use their mobile phones even if they are in a gasoline station. Some still smoke even if there is a no smoking sign. Many do not take note of the signs because they do not realize their importance.

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Why do we need safety signs ?

There are many reasons why we have to follow safety signs.

Here are five of them:

1. It will keep you safe. The signs provide information about the area you are entering. If the building have zones you should not visit, you will see a sign that tells you to go away. It also gives warning. If the surface is hot, a sign will warn you about it so that you can take precautionary measures if ever you need to touch the surface.
2. It will keep the others safe. Keep in mind that your actions will affect the others. For example, a warning sign tells you that the room has highly flammable substances. It forbids you to use your lighter or any fire starters. However, you took that for granted. You lit a cigarette, and it caused fire to burst.

The incident above will not only endanger you, it will also put everyone in the area at risk. You are unsure if someone will be able to stop the spread of fire.
3. It will keep you out of trouble. There are signs that remind you of the law. In the streets for example, a sign will tell you to slow down. There are also signs that will indicate that you are about to enter a school zone.

Following these signs will keep you out of trouble. You will not get a ticket for over speeding and you will help keep the kids safe.
4. It will direct you to safety. There are safety signs that give instructions on what to do in times of emergency. There are signs that point you to where the potable water is. Signs also indicate how far you are from the next gasoline station.



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Why do we need safety signs ?

One of the most important signs you should find is the exit. When you get to a building, it is important that you see visible signs of where the safety exits are. Fire exit or emergency exits are very important because you never know when your emergency will occur.

5. It will help the society find order. Imagine what will happen if everyone in the community refuse to follow the signs. People will cross in any parts of the streets even if it is prohibited. People will throw their waste anywhere. Lastly, they will not mind warning signs, leading to a very chaotic neighborhood.

It is important to follow signs because it is primarily for the well-being of the people. If the establishment or the government does not care for the people, then they would not exert efforts in putting those signs up.

Having specialized in the safety signs

[<http://www.essentialfiresafety.co.uk/safety/fire-safety-signs/>] trade for over 20 years, Brian now works tirelessly to promote affordable fire safety for home and for business.

Article Source: <http://EzineArticles.com/1928808>



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Why do we need safety signs ?



Health and safety signs are there to give us information on what to do in emergency situations as well as warning us about potentially dangerous situations. Health and safety signs are a legal requirement in some premises whether it used by the public or for business. Areas that are considered to be danger zones require appropriate health and safety signs.



Hazard signs are usually used as a forewarning to avoid potentially dangerous situations. They range in relevance depending on what the use is. On very common sign is one warning of entry for 'authorised personnel only' and this sign can usually be found in most businesses. This could be a warning due to something as simple as a staff rest area or even a stock storage area, but it could also be a warning for an area that may contain hazardous equipment. So what could even be mistakenly considered an unimportant warning sign could be a very important indication of a serious danger. Some other examples of hazard signs may be chemical warning, electrical warning or construction safety signs and these may be more commonly accepted as hazards to the general public.

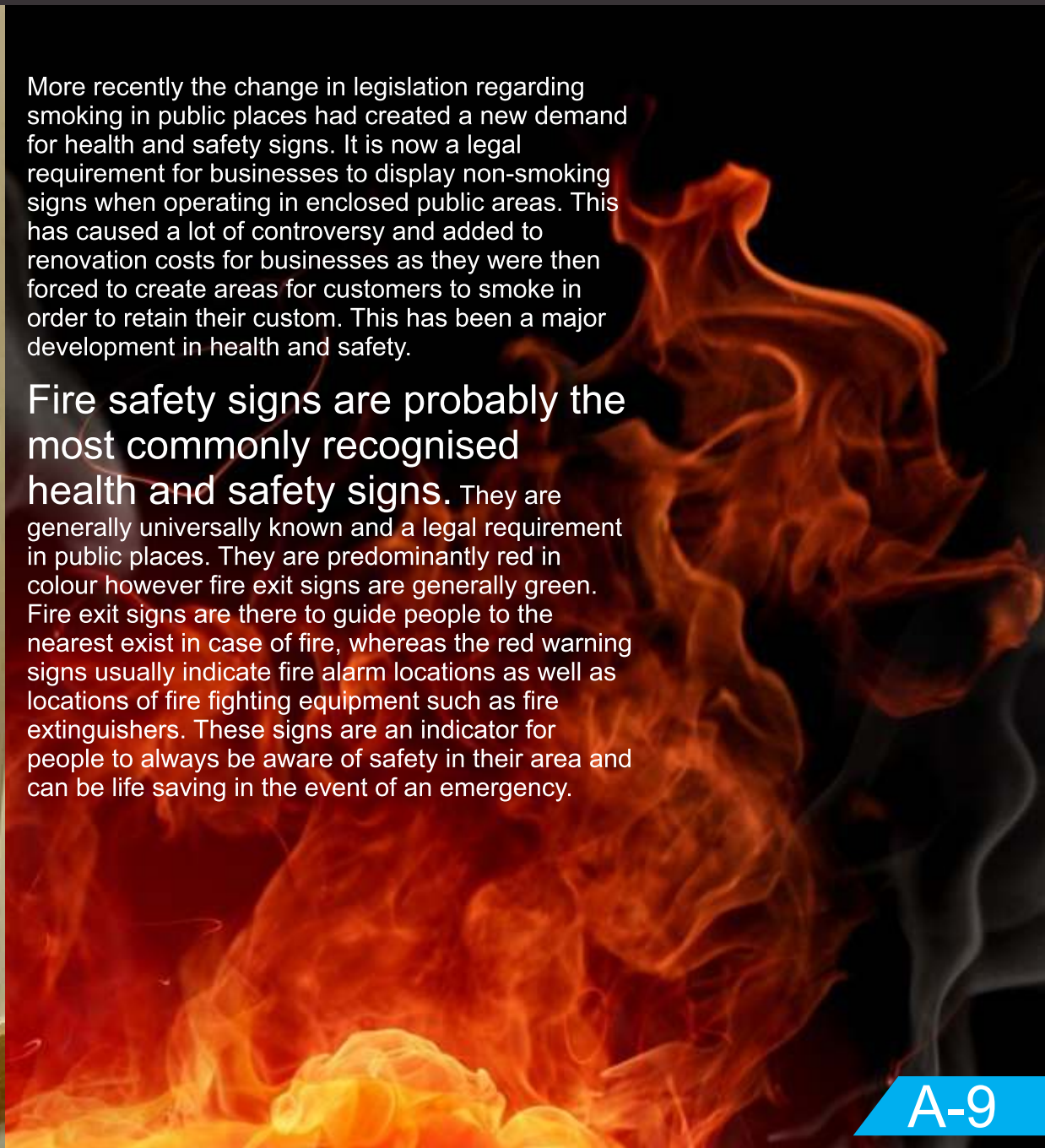
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Why do we need safety signs ?



More recently the change in legislation regarding smoking in public places had created a new demand for health and safety signs. It is now a legal requirement for businesses to display non-smoking signs when operating in enclosed public areas. This has caused a lot of controversy and added to renovation costs for businesses as they were then forced to create areas for customers to smoke in order to retain their custom. This has been a major development in health and safety.

Fire safety signs are probably the most commonly recognised health and safety signs. They are generally universally known and a legal requirement in public places. They are predominantly red in colour however fire exit signs are generally green. Fire exit signs are there to guide people to the nearest exist in case of fire, whereas the red warning signs usually indicate fire alarm locations as well as locations of fire fighting equipment such as fire extinguishers. These signs are an indicator for people to always be aware of safety in their area and can be life saving in the event of an emergency.



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Why do we need safety signs ?



Other common health and safety warning signs include hygiene and first aid notifications. First aid signage is usually found in businesses and is easily recognisable due to widespread use. So as you can clearly see, health and safety signs play a very important part of our daily lives and are probably located in a lot more places than we generally realise. It is important that the signs are placed in an area where they are likely to be noticed and are relevant to business. They are necessary to reduce the occurrence of accidents or injuries as well as advising what to do in the unfortunate event of an emergency occurring. They are a necessary item and contribute to making the environment around us a safer place to be in.

Whatever the size of your business, Slingsby can provide you with the industrial equipment you're looking for. To explore our range of health and safety signs further, please visit our website at <http://www.slingsby.com>

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SAFETY SIGNS AND COLOUR AT WORK

SAFETY SIGN CATEGORIES

Safety signs and colour are useful tools to help protect the health and safety of employees and workplace visitors.

Safety signs are used to:

- draw attention to health and safety hazards
- point out hazards that may not be obvious
- provide general information and directions
- remind employees where personal protective equipment must be worn
- show where emergency equipment is located
- indicate where certain actions are prohibited

Colour attracts attention and can be used extensively for safety purposes. For example, colour can be used as an additional safety measure to identify the contents of pipes and the nature of the hazard.

The choice of colour also draws attention to the probability of a hazard causing harm. For example, the colour red is used to indicate a definite hazard. A potential hazard is communicated by the colour yellow.

When employees are aware of the hazards around them and take the necessary precautions, the possibility of an injury, illness or other loss is minimized.

However while safety signs and colours are valuable in warning of hazards, they are not substitutes for eliminating or reducing those hazards, whenever possible.

This guideline will help your workplace to effectively use safety signs and colours for the protection of employees and visitors alike.

Sign Categories





As shown in the table below, there are five main sign categories used in the workplace:






- prohibitory
- warning
- mandatory
- emergency/first aid
- fire fighting equipment






These categories are further explained on the following page (with examples and important details).

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SAFETY SIGN CATEGORIES






Type	Description & execution	Example
Emergency/ First Aid 	Colours: A Green square or oblong with white symbol or white pictogram Shape: Square oblong rectangular Purpose: To describe information about safe condition & available safety facilities Meaning: Safe way where to go in emergency First Aid Message: Take safety measure Take action for safety	 FIRE EXIT  ASSEMBLY POINT  FIRST AID






T	Description & execution	Example
Fire Safety 	Colours: A Red square or oblong with white symbol or white pictogram Shape: Square oblong Purpose: To describe location of fire extinguishing equipment Meaning: Location / type of fire fighting equipment Message: Access and use in the event of fire	 FIRE EXTINGUISHER  HOSE REEL  FIRE PHONE  FIRE ALARM

T	Description & execution	Example
Prohibition 	Colours: A Red circular band with a diagonal cross bar on a white background; the symbol within the circle to be black Shape: Round circular Purpose: To indicate that a certain action or behaviour is prohibited Meaning: Stop Don't You must not Message: Forbids an action	Purpose:  NO MOBILE  NO FOOD  NO SMOKING  NO DIVING

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SAFETY SIGN CATEGORIES

Type	Description & execution	Example
Mandatory	Colours: Blue circle with white text, symbol or white pictogram.	 
	Shape: Round circular	 
	Purpose: To indicate that a certain action or behaviour is mandatory	MUST THROW LITTER IN BIN MUST WEAR HARD HAT
	Meaning: Do it You must do it compulsory	MUST WASH HANDS MUST BUCKLE UP
	Message: Obey	

Type	Description & execution	Example
Warning	Colours: A yellow triangle with a black border and a black symbol	 
	Shape: Triangle	 
	Purpose: To warn of any type of hazard or a potential hazard ahead.	SLIPPERY CAUTION
	Meaning: Danger Hazard Careful	RADIATION RISK TOXIC
	Message: Be careful watch out Take care & caution	

Sign Types










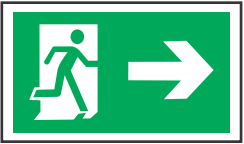





One of three sign types should be used to communicate a message:

- symbol signs
- symbol signs with text
- text signs

Use symbols that are simple and easy to learn and recognize. Include simple wording (text) to help explain the meaning of the symbol or to provide more information. Text signs should only be used when no appropriate symbols exist.

SIGN TYPES

Examples of the three types of signs are shown below:

	Symbol sign	Symbol sign with text	Text sign
1. Regulatory			
2. Mandatory			
3. Warning			
4. Emergency /First Aid			
5. Fire Fighting Equipment			

Other Applications for Safety Colours

Safety colours are also useful in work areas, and on equipment and machinery. The safety colours and their meanings are listed below, based on the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) standard Z535.1-2006.

Colour	Meaning	Examples
Red	Danger or stop	Containers of flammable liquids; emergency stop bars; stop buttons; fire protection equipment
Orange	Warning	Hazardous parts of machines which may cut, crush, or otherwise injure a worker; inside of movable guards or the inside of transmission guards for gears, pulleys, chains, etc.; exposed parts (edges only) of pulleys, gears, rollers, cutting devices, power jaws, etc.
Yellow	Caution	Physical hazards which might result in striking against, stumbling, falling, tripping or being caught in-between; storage cabinets for flammable materials; containers for corrosive or unstable materials
Green	First aid / safety equipment / emergency	First aid kits, stations; stretchers; emergency showers; emergency exit routes
Blue	Safety information	Signs requiring use of personal protective equipment (PPE)

Determining Your Requirements

Whether you are evaluating your existing safety sign and colour system, or planning a new one, the system will be more effective and easier to implement by asking for feedback and suggestions from your staff. You can also tap the expertise of your health and safety representative or committee.

SIGN TYPES

Discuss such issues as:

- ▶ What messages need to be conveyed to employees and workplace visitors?
- ▶ Which messages are most important to health and safety?
- ▶ Do current signs appropriately convey the importance of a message, e.g., do more important messages stand out?
- ▶ Are current signs and safety colours easy to understand? Do they meet the needs of observers with visual limitations, e.g., those who confuse red and green? How about the needs of employees who do not speak English?
- ▶ Are employees trained to understand workplace signs and colours?
- ▶ Do employees comply with signs?
- ▶ Is there consistency in the use of safety signs and colours?
- ▶ Are signs visible, away from clutter or obstructions, and well-lighted?
- ▶ Are signs and colours effective in drawing attention to hazards?
- ▶ Are signs posted in the best possible location and within an appropriate distance from hazards?
- ▶ What is the general condition of existing signs?
- ▶ Do signs meet legal requirements?
- ▶ Do the signs, symbols and colours used reflect current standards (e.g., CSA standards)?

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Safety sign and colour use pointers for effective

After determining your needs, work with your health and safety representative or committee to set standards for signs and colours to use throughout the workplace.

Ensure the signs and colours are used consistently. Research shows that companies that have implemented a uniform sign and colour system to make hazards more visible and easy to identify have successfully lowered their injury frequency rates. Workers know that signs and colours mean the same thing even when they work in different departments or plant locations. It also enables employees to quickly locate first aid, fire fighting and other emergency equipment.

The signs and colours in your workplace should provide enough information for persons to protect their health and safety.

Signs, especially those that indicate hazards, should:

- attract a person's attention
- clearly identify the nature of the hazard
- specify the immediate action required
- be posted in a place that provides enough time for a person to read the sign and act accordingly
- be easily recognized and understood by all employees
- reflect the needs of those who have visual limitations or who do not speak English
- be sized or placed according to the importance of the message

Posting Signs

- Signs should be clearly visible, positioned in the line of sight, and free from any obstructions or clutter.
- Keep signs well-lighted. Observers should be able to read a sign easily and recognize its safety colour. Lighting should also be sufficient to make any hazard clearly visible.
- Post the sign within an appropriate distance from the hazard it is pointing out. An observer must have enough time to see and read the sign and do whatever is necessary to keep safe.

SAFETY SIGN AND COLOUR USE

In general, signs should be displayed alone. When signs must be grouped together, place them in an appropriate order. Use no more than three symbols in the same location.

Ensure that directional signs are visible from all directions. Include arrows on exit signs wherever the direction is not obvious. Directional signs should be posted at a consistent height throughout the workplace. They should also be posted at appropriate locations or decision points so that the route to take is always clear.

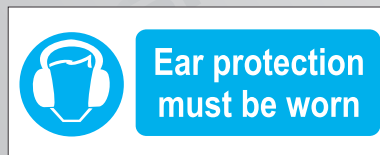
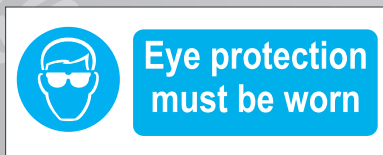
Using Easy to Read and Easy to Understand Signs

- Help employees and workplace visitors understand signs quickly by using clear language and symbols that can be learned and recognized easily.
- Keep symbols as simple as possible; eliminate details that don't make the message clearer.
- Avoid using signs that contain only text messages. A combination of text and symbols is generally the most effective.
- Consider multi-lingual signs if you have employees who do not speak English.
- Use capital letters for the first letter of the first word and small letters for the rest.
- Use appropriate warning words. These can be in capital letters, if you prefer. For example:

Danger (or **DANGER**) – to warn of a definite hazard

Caution (or **CAUTION**) – to warn of a potential hazard

- The lettering styles (fonts) most recommended are sans serif, bold or regular face. Examples include: Arial, Helvetica, Folio Medium, Futura, Univers, or equivalent.
- Limit one message to a sign. To convey more than one message, use separate signs, as shown below. For example, if hearing protectors and safety glasses are required, use two separate signs, one for hearing protection, and another for eye protection.



Using safety colours

Keep colours to a minimum. This emphasizes the most important signs and colour markings, and also prevents confusion and visual fatigue.

Use colours consistently throughout the workplace. Ensure that employees who are colour blind (specifically, red-green confusing) can understand signs and coloured controls. Use symbol signs with text. Use flashing lights, audible alarms or signs beside coloured controls.

Other pointers

- Signs should have rounded or blunted corners to prevent sharp edges, burrs, splinters or other sharp projections.
- Position fastening devices carefully so that they don't become hazards.
- For more information on sign specifications, refer to the standards listed in References.

Training

Inform employees that signs and colours are being used in the workplace to protect employee/visitor health and safety. Also point out to employees that their cooperation and feedback are necessary for the system to be effective.

Not everyone may be aware that there is a purpose for and meaning in the shape and colour of safety signs or that colours on equipment and around the workplace indicate hazards.

Train employees so that they understand:

- the meaning of the various shapes, symbols and colours used
- the contents of pipes based on their colour, attached tags and other markings
- the consequences if exposed to the hazard
- safety precautions to follow
- what to do in an emergency
- how to use emergency equipment

Make this training a part of your orientation or induction training for new employees.

Provide employees with orientation handbooks that contain complete and updated information on the safety signs and colours used in your workplace.

Review the meaning of signs and colours periodically with employees to ensure all signs are understood.

Provide refresher training as needed.

Maintenance

Maintain safety signs in good condition. Inspect signs during regular workplace inspections.

Replace worn, faded, damaged, and outdated signs.

Change signs that are often misunderstood or overlooked.

Remove signs that are redundant or no longer needed.

Repaint areas where safety colours have faded.

References

International Organization for Standardization

- ISO 3864-1:2002: Graphic Symbols – Safety Colours and Safety Signs, Part 1: Design principles for safety signs in workplaces and public areas