THE LEXICON OF SAFETY SIGN DESIGNS

Safety signs come in all shapes, colours and sizes – and with a variety of signal words, too. "Warning" and "Danger" may seem interchangeable, but they actually are intended to communicate very different messages.

How do you know which safety sign design, signal words and colours are correct for the message you want to communicate? Here's what you need to know:

SIGNAL WORDS

The Australian Standard assign signal words to hazardous situations based on a combination of these two factors:

1. Severity of the potential injury or damage
2. The likelihood of it happening

AS 1319—1994 AUSTRALIAN STANDARD: Safety Signs For The Occupational Environment

The Australian Standard sets out the requirements for the design and use of safety signs intended for use in the occupational environment. These signs are designed to regulate and control safety related behaviour, to warn of hazards and to provide emergency information including fire protection information.

DESIGN YOUR OWN CUSTOM SAFETY SIGN TODAY AT BRADYID.COM.AU

CHOOSING THE RIGHT SIGN:

DANGER
Most extreme hazardous situations

Hazard Sign

USE FOR
Marking an imminently hazardous situation that, if not avoided, will result in death or serious injury.

Could Kill You

DANGER
HIGH VOLTAGE

DESIGN
The Danger symbol is in a red oval shape, white text against a black rectangular box, with a white background.

WARNING
Severely hazardous situations

Hazard Sign

USE FOR
Marking a hazardous situation that, if not avoided, could result in serious injury.

Could Hurt You

BEWARE OF VEHICLES

DESIGN
Hazard symbol is black on a yellow background with a black triangle around it. Sign wording, if necessary, is in black lettering.

PROHIBITION
Actions that are not permitted

Regulatory Sign

USE FOR
Specify behaviour or actions which are not permitted. E.g. No Smoking

Can't Do

NO FOOD OR DRINK IN THIS AREA

DESIGN
Annulus and slash is depicted in red over the action symbol in black. Sign wording, if necessary, is in black lettering on a white background.

MANDATORY
Instructions that must be carried out

Regulatory Sign

USE FOR
Communicating important information and instructions that must be carried out. E.g. Eye Protection Must be Worn

Must Do

FOOT PROTECTION MUST BE WORN IN THIS AREA

DESIGN
Symbols (or pictograms) are depicted in white on a blue circular background. Sign wording, if necessary, is in black lettering on a white background.

EMERGENCY
Safety instructions

USE FOR
Indicating the location of, or directions to emergency related facilities. E.g. Exit Signs, First Aid Signs

FIRST AID

DESIGN
Feature a white symbol and/or text on a green background.

FIRE
Safety instructions

USE FOR
Advising the location of fire alarms and fire fighting equipment. E.g. Fire Extinguisher

FIRE EXTINGUISHER

DESIGN
Contain a white symbol and/or text on a red background.

BRADY
WHEN PERFORMANCE MATTERS MOST™