Yale Environmental Health & Safety

Autoclave Safety

DO

- Check the drain plug for blockage. \checkmark
- Inspect the gasket seal for deformation or damage.
- Report any damaged components or odd sounds to your business office or service provider.
- Loosen the cap on any containers to be autoclaved.
- Cover exposed skin. \checkmark
- ✓ Wear personal protective equipment (PPE) including lab coat, apron, heat-resistant gloves and face shield.
- \checkmark Ensure the door is closed completely before starting the cycle.
- Report injuries, incidents, near misses or poor work practices to Yale Environmental Health and Safety at 203-785-3550.

DO NOT

- Attempt to use a damaged autoclave.
- Autoclave toxic, flammable, oxidizer, corrosive chemicals or compressed gases.
- Autoclave radioactive chemicals or items.
- Autoclave anatomical tissue waste, bleached items or formaldehyde treated tissue.
- Autoclave plastics such as PS, PETE/PET, HDPE, PVC, LDPE*





Put too much water in your containment tray.

* PS=Polystyrene, PETE/PET=Polyethylene Terephthalate, HDPE=High Density Polyethylene, PVC=Polyvinyl Chloride, LDPE=Low Density Polyethylene

In Case of Emergency....

- Call the EHS Emergency Line 24/7 at 203-785-3555. •
- Call 911 for all fire, police and medical emergencies.
- For general EHS-related issues, call 203-785-3550 or email ehs@yale.edu.