

Selected Portions of the United States Army Corp of Engineers Sign Standards Manual

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This document is available as publication EP 310-1-6A and EP 310-1-6B (two volumes) and is available at no cost. Contact the USACE via its web site (see section VI.B) to request these documents. Make sure to request all updates when ordering this document, as there have been several updates to the manual.

(Note: Numbers/letters in parentheses indicate the original section in the USACE manual)

The industrial safety sign system shown in this section has been developed for both public and restricted areas of Corps projects and facilities. The functions of the signs are: to alert or warn people about hazards of which they might not be aware; to restrict access to those areas which present extremely dangerous conditions; or to instruct people of safety requirements.

The system has been designed in compliance with the standards set for safety signs by: the American National Standards Institute, the Occupational Health and Safety Administration, and the *U.S. Army Regulations for Safety Color Code Markings and Signs*. Each of the Corps safety signs is designed for a specific intended purpose. Use of this group of signs is intended to eliminate haphazard selection and posting of visually unrelated safety messages. Implemented as a uniform system, both the singular and total effects of more than one sign in an area will be increased.

There are five basic types of signs in this group: Danger, Caution, Safety, Notice, and Directional signs.

Danger Signs (Red): Indicate immediate and grave danger or hazard capable of producing irreversible damage or injury, and prohibitions against dangerous activity.

Caution Signs (Yellow): Call attention to a potential danger or a hazard capable of resulting in severe but not irreversible injury or damage. In some instances, the hazards may be those associated with Danger signs but are of significantly less magnitude.

Safety Signs (Green): Include general practices and rules relating to health, first aid, and housekeeping for a safe workplace.

Notice Signs (Blue): Control or define access and circulation. They are used primarily for information.

Directional Signs (Black): Label or point the way to fire extinguishing equipment, fire escapes and exits, gas shut-off valves, and sprinkler drains, and emergency procedures.

The color format of each of the five sign types described above is shown on page 11.2. Color standards for Industrial Safety signs are provided on page 4.13.

A comprehensive catalog display of commonly used Safety signs is shown on pages 11.4-8. Adjacent to each sign is a catalog order number for procurement. The wording of these signs has been carefully chosen to be both easy to read and easy to understand. (Refer to the viewing distance and panel size guidelines on page 11.3 to determine appropriate sign size needed.)

If a sign with a unique legend is needed, the format should follow the grids shown on page 11.3. The sign legend should be concise and easy to read, and should contain enough information to be easily understood. A positive tone is desired rather than a negative.

Mounting guidelines are shown on page 11.9.

For assistance in signing for safety, contact your District/Division safety officer. For additional information on ordering the signs included in this section, contact the Corps sign coordinator.

The Corps safety signs have a visual order created by the use of Helvetica Bold typography for the sign legends along with clear, simple colors. The signs are devoid of any unnecessary lines, shapes or graphic devices. The examples below show the use of the standard colors for each of the various types of safety signs

in the system. Reference numbers for each of the colors are specified on page 4.13, Industrial Safety Sign Color Standards.

a) Danger Signs: The primary legend background is red with white typography. The lettering describing the specific danger is black on a white background.

b) Caution Signs: The word "Caution" is bright yellow on a black background. This color combination is reversed for the descriptive legend with black legend and yellow background.

c) Notice Signs: These signs have a distinctive blue top panel with the legend "Notice" in white. The information on the sign is printed black on a white background.

d) Safety Signs: This type of sign always has a bright green top panel with the "Safety" legend in white. The lettered information on the sign is black on a white field.

e) Directional Signs: The top section of the sign is black with a white legend identifying the subject of the Directional sign. The directional arrow that matches the weight of Helvetica Bold type is printed black on a white background.



a)



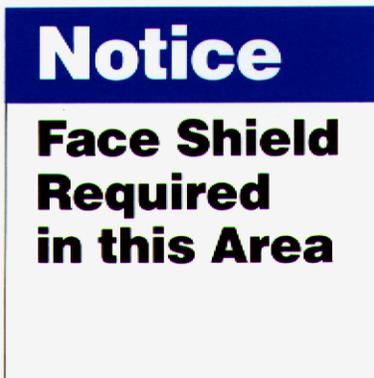
d)



b)



e)



c)

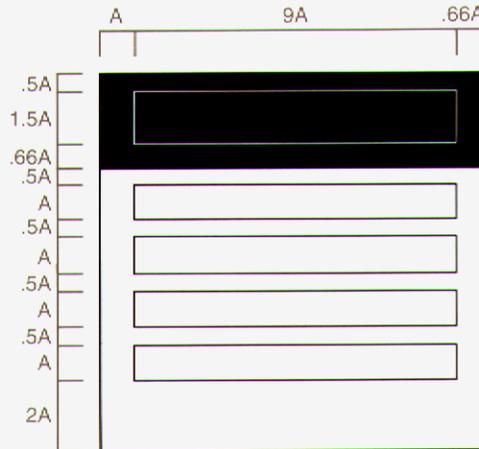
All of the safety signs on pages 11.4-8 were prepared using the grid formats shown below. Dimensionally, the sign is constructed around the size of the descriptive legend A. The lettering is upper and lower case (initial capitals only) Helvetica Bold typeface placed flush to the left with a ragged right margin.

Most legends will use Grid A. A small number of the signs that have longer descriptive legends are to be constructed on Grid B. Directional Safety signs use Grid C. Refer to Section 4 for arrow use guidelines.

These grids are to be used when preparing artwork for any safety sign required that is not included in the following displays.

Industrial Safety signs are to be mounted for optimum viewing. Specify a panel size with enough target value so that it is easily seen in a busy shop environment. The matrix below specifies a standard viewing distance for each panel size using signs constructed on Grids A and C.

Grid A

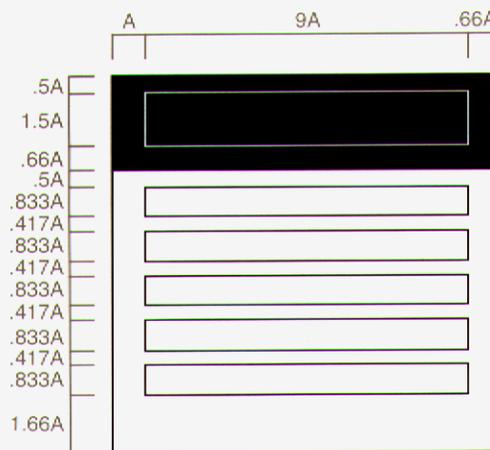


Industrial Safety Signs Panel Size and Viewing Distance Guide

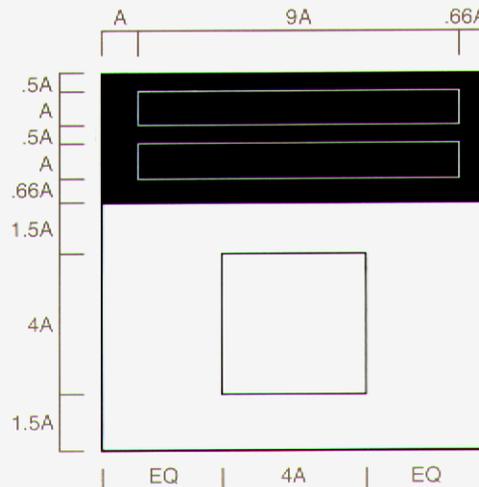
Panel Size	Grid A Format	Viewing Distance
8" x 8"	A = .75"	21 ft.
12" x 12"	A = 1.125"	31.5 ft.
16" x 16"	A = 1.5"	42 ft.
24" x 24"	A = 2.25"	63 ft.

The viewing distance calculation is to be reduced by 16% for signs constructed with Grid B.

Grid B



Grid C



Square inside the grid indicates location of arrow.

Red, white, and black Danger signs are used to warn of the existence of an immediate hazard or specific danger. Shown below are standard Corps Danger signs. These may be ordered using the code number adjacent to each display. Refer to guidelines on page 11.3 to determine ap-

propriate panel size. Follow specified grid formats to fabricate any Danger sign needed that is not included in this display. For color standards, see page 4.13.

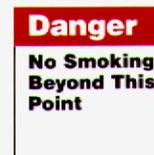
Grid A



SDA-01



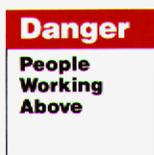
SDA-02



SDA-03



SDA-04



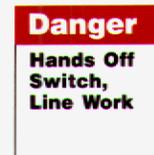
SDA-05



SDA-06



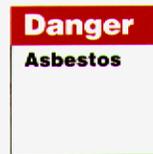
SDA-07



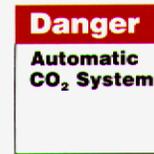
SDA-08



SDA-09



SDA-10



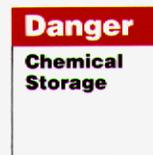
SDA-11



SDA-12



SDA-13



SDA-14



SDA-15

Grid B



SDA-16



SDA-17

Sign Type	Legend Size (A)	Panel Size	Post Size	Specification Code	Mounting Height	Color Bkg/Lgd
SDA-00	.75"	8" x 8"	—	ALU-6	65"	SR-SW/SK
SDA-00	1.125"	12" x 12"	—	ALU-6	65"	SR-SW/SK
SDA-00	1.5"	16" x 16"	—	ALU-6	78" min.	SR-SW/SK
SDA-00	2.25"	24" x 24"	—	ALU-6	78" min.	SR-SW/SK

Caution signs are used to warn against potential hazards or to caution against unsafe practices. The standard Corps Caution signs are shown below with their respective order codes. Sizing guidelines for Caution signs are on page 11.3. For color standards, see page 4.13.

Grid A



SCA-01



SCA-02



SCA-03



SCA-04



SCA-05



SCA-06



SCA-07



SCA-08



SCA-09



SCA-10



SCA-11



SCA-12



SCA-13



SCA-14



SCA-15



SCA-16



SCA-17



SCA-18



SCA-19

Grid B



SCA-20



SCA-21



SCA-22



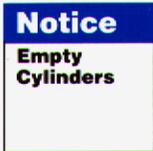
SCA-23

Sign Type	Legend Size (A)	Panel Size	Post Size	Specification Code	Mounting Height	Color Bkg/Lgd
SCA-00	.75"	8" x 8"	—	ALU-6	60"	SY/SK
SCA-00	1.125"	12" x 12"	—	ALU-6	60"	SY/SK
SCA-00	1.5"	16" x 16"	—	ALU-6	78" min.	SY/SK
SCA-00	2.25"	24" x 24"	—	ALU-6	78" min.	SY/SK

Notice signs are used to convey general information to control access or guide users in a specific area of a project or facility. Examples are shown in the display of commonly used Notice signs below. To order, refer to the adjacent code with the appropriate size sign needed (see page

11.3). To fabricate Notice signs, see the grid format instructions also on page 11.3. For color standards, see page 4.13

Grid A

 SNO-01	 SNO-02	 SNO-03	 SNO-04
 SNO-05	 SNO-06	 SNO-07	 SNO-08
 SNO-09	 SNO-10	 SNO-11	

Grid B


 SNO-12

Sign Type	Legend Size (A)	Panel Size	Post Size	Specification Code	Mounting Height	Color Bkg/Lgd
SNO-00	.75"	8" x 8"	—	ALU-6	65"	SB-SW/SK
SNO-00	1.125"	12" x 12"	—	ALU-6	65"	SB-SW/SK
SNO-00	1.5"	16" x 16"	—	ALU-6	78" min.	SB-SW/SK
SNO-00	2.25"	24" x 24"	—	ALU-6	78" min.	SB-SW/SK

Safety signs call attention to the general rules or good practices that create a safe workplace. The standard Corps Safety signs are shown below with their respective order codes. Sizing guidelines for Safety signs are on page 11.3. For color standards, see page 4.13.

Grid A



SAF-01



SAF-02



SAF-03



SAF-04

Sign Type	Legend Size (A)	Panel Size	Post Size	Specification Code	Mounting Height	Color Bkg/Lgd
SAF-00	.75"	8" x 8"	—	ALU-6	65"	SG-SW/SK
SAF-00	1.125"	12" x 12"	—	ALU-6	65"	SG-SW/SK
SAF-00	1.5"	16" x 16"	—	ALU-6	78" min.	SG-SW/SK
SAF-00	2.25"	24" x 24"	—	ALU-6	78" min.	SG-SW/SK

Directional signs that relate to accident prevention use a format similar to all other Industrial Safety signs (see Grid C, page 11.3). Shown in the display below are commonly used signs of this type. To order, identify the sign by the adjacent code. Indi-

cate sign panel size required (see page 11.3) and arrow direction on the order. For color standards, see page 4.13.

Grid C



SDR-01



SDR-02



SDR-03



SDR-04



SDR-05



SDR-06



SDR-07



SDR-08



SDR-09



SDR-10



SDR-11

Sign Type	Legend Size (A)	Panel Size	Post Size	Specification Code	Mounting Height	Color Bkg/Lgd
SDR-00	.75"	8" x 8"	—	ALU-6	65"	SK-SW/SK
SDR-00	1.125"	12" x 12"	—	ALU-6	65"	SK-SW/SK
SDR-00	1.5"	16" x 16"	—	ALU-6	78" min.	SK-SW/SK
SDR-00	2.25"	24" x 24"	—	ALU-6	78" min.	SK-SW/SK

Signs are placed to alert and inform in sufficient time to avoid the hazard or take appropriate action. They should be sized for easy reading from the viewing distance required. In visually complex industrial shops, a sign that is too small will be lost. Conversely, an overly large sign can overwhelm an area.

Signs should be placed where they will not create distractions. Care should be taken to avoid grouping too many signs together in one location. Small sign panels placed for close viewing are appropriately placed at eye level: (5'-5"). Larger signs posted in big spaces or for viewing at greater distances should be placed proportionally higher. Signs should not be placed

where moveable objects may obscure them. Only place those signs that relate to a specific piece of equipment on that equipment.

Before ordering a sign, place a cardboard panel in the proposed location to verify the size and placement location.

- a) 8" x 8" panel mounted at eye level for viewing up to 21 feet.
- b) 12" x 12" panel mounted at eye level for viewing up to 31.5 feet.
- c) 16" x 16" panel mounted 6'-6" or higher level for viewing up to 42 feet.
- d) 24" x 24" panel mounted 6'-6" or higher level for viewing up to 63 feet.

