

2024 IFC/IBC Exemptions

2025 CFC Table 5003.1.1(5)/CBC Table 307.1.1 **HAZARDOUS MATERIALS EXEMPTIONS^a**

Material Classification	Occupancy or Application	Exemption
Combustible fiber	Baled cotton	Densely packed baled cotton shall not be classified as combustible fiber, provided that the bales comply with the packing requirements of ISO 8115.
Corrosive	Building materials	The quantity of commonly used building materials that are classified as corrosive materials is not limited.
	Personal and household products	The quantity of personal and household products that are classified as corrosive materials is not limited in retail displays, provided that the products are in original packaging.
	Retail and wholesale sales occupancies	<p>The quantity of medicines, foodstuffs or consumer products, and cosmetics containing not more than 50% by volume of water-miscible liquids, with the remainder of the solutions not being flammable, is not limited.</p> <p>To qualify for this allowance, such materials shall be packaged in individual containers not exceeding 1.3 gallons.</p>
Explosives	Group B, F, M and S	Storage of special industrial explosive devices is not limited.
	Groups M and R-3	Storage of black powder, smokeless propellant, and small arms primers is not limited.
	Aerosols	Buildings and structures occupied for the storage of aerosol products, aerosol cooking spray products, or plastic aerosol 3 products shall be classified as Group S-1.

Flammable and combustible liquids and gases	Alcoholic beverages	The quantity of alcoholic beverages in liquor stores and distributors without bulk storage is not limited.
		The quantity of alcoholic beverages in distilling or brewing of beverages is not limited.
		The storage quantity of beer, distilled spirits and wines in barrels and casks is not limited.
		The quantity of alcoholic beverages in retail and wholesale sales occupancies is not limited. To qualify for this allowance, beverages shall be packaged in individual containers not exceeding 1.3 gallons.
	Cleaning establishments with combustible liquid solvents	The quantity of combustible liquid solvents used in closed systems and having a flash point at or above 140°F is not limited. To qualify for this allowance, equipment shall be listed by an approved testing agency and the occupancy shall be separated from all other areas of the buildings by 1-hour fire barriers or 1-hour horizontal assemblies, or both, constructed in accordance with the International Building Code.
		The quantity of combustible liquid solvents having a flash point at or above 200°F is not limited.
	Closed piping systems	The quantity of flammable and combustible liquids and gases utilized for the operation of machinery or equipment is not limited.
	Flammable finishing operations using flammable and combustible liquids	Buildings and structures occupied for the application of flammable finishes shall comply with Section 416.
	Fuel	The quantity of liquid or gaseous fuel in tanks on vehicles or motorized equipment is not limited.
		The quantity of gaseous fuels in piping systems and fixed appliances regulated by

		the International Fuel Gas Code is not limited.
		The quantity of liquid fuels in piping systems and fixed appliances regulated by the International Mechanical Code is not limited.
	Fuel oil	The quantity of fuel oil storage complying with Section 605.4.2 is not limited.
	Hand sanitizer	The quantity of alcohol-based hand rubs (ABHR) classified as Class I or II liquids in dispensers installed in accordance with Sections 5705.5 and 5705.5.1 is not limited. The location of the ABHR shall be provided in the construction documents.
	Retail and wholesale sales occupancies	<p>The quantity of medicines, foodstuffs or consumer products, and cosmetics containing not more than 50% by volume of water-miscible liquids, with the remainder of the solutions not being flammable, is not limited.</p> <p>To qualify for this allowance, such materials shall be packaged in individual containers not exceeding 1.3 gallons.</p>
Highly toxic and toxic materials	Retail and wholesale sales occupancies	<p>The quantity of medicines, foodstuffs or consumer products, and cosmetics containing not more than 50% by volume of water-miscible liquids, with the remainder of the solutions not being flammable, is not limited.</p> <p>To qualify for this allowance, such materials shall be packaged in individual containers not exceeding 1.3 gallons.</p>
	Agricultural materials	The quantity of agricultural materials stored or utilized for agricultural purposes on the premises is not limited.

Any	Energy storage	The quantity of hazardous materials in stationary storage battery systems is not limited.
		The quantity of hazardous materials in stationary fuel cell power systems is not limited.
		The quantity of hazardous materials in capacitor energy storage systems is not limited.
	Refrigeration systems	The quantity of refrigerants in refrigeration systems is not limited.

- a. Exempted materials and conditions listed in the above table are required to comply with provisions of this code that are not based on exceeding maximum allowable quantities in Section 5003.

CFC/CBC 2022 Hazardous Materials Exceptions from Group H occupancy

CFC Exception (5001.1)	CBC Exception (307.1.1)	Comments
1. In retail or wholesale sales occupancies, medicines, foodstuff, cosmetics and commercial or institutional products containing not more than 50% by volume of water-miscible liquids and with the remainder of the solutions not being flammable, provided that such materials are packaged in individual containers not exceeding 1.3 gallons (5 L).		<p>Must be in retail or wholesale sales (Group M occupancy)</p> <p>Could be toxic, highly toxic, oxidizing, flammable</p> <p>Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pharmacy drugs • Cosmetics • Window cleaner • Disinfectants • Disinfecting wipes

2. Alcoholic beverages in retail or wholesale sales occupancies, provided that the liquids are packaged in individual containers not exceeding 1.3 gallons (5 L).	6. Liquor stores and distributors without bulk storage.	<p>Must be in retail or wholesale sales (Group M occupancy). A leak or spill from a single container would present a minimal risk.</p> <p>Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beer • Wine • Liquor • Cider • Mixers
3. Application and release of pesticide and agricultural products and materials intended for use in weed abatement, erosion control, soil amendment or similar applications where applied in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and label directions.	8. The storage or utilization of materials for agricultural purposes on the premises.	<p>Pesticides, fungicides, herbicides, and fertilizers are exempt IF used for agricultural purposes on the premises.</p> <p>Application methods have been tested by manufacturer and instructions must be followed.</p> <p>CFC Chapter 26</p>
4. The off-site transportation of hazardous materials where in accordance with Department of Transportation (DOTn) regulations.		Transportation to site is exempt. Don't sign for damaged containers. Once package/containers are accepted, they fall under CFC jurisdiction.
5. Building materials not otherwise regulated by this code.	11. Commonly used corrosive building materials.	Examples: treated concrete or wood being used for construction purposes.
6. Refrigeration systems (see Section 608).	7. Refrigeration systems.	Must follow requirements of CFC Section 608. Does not exempt STORAGE of refrigerants. CBC considers this Incidental Use Area.

7. Stationary storage battery systems regulated by Section 1207.	9. Stationary storage battery systems installed in accordance with the California Fire Code.	Limits apply: CFC Section 1207 CBC considers this Incidental Storage Area.
8. The display, storage, sale or use of fireworks and explosives in accordance with Chapter 56.	14. The storage of black powder, smokeless propellant and small arms primers in Group M and R-3 and special industrial explosive devices in Groups B, F, M and S, provided such storage conforms to the quantity limits and requirements prescribed in the California Fire Code.	CFC Chapter 56 allows certain limited quantities if conditions are met.
9. Corrosives used in personal and household products in the manufacturer's original consumer packaging in Group M occupancies.	10. Corrosive personal or household products in their original packaging used in retail display.	Group M occupancy Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bleach • Hair dyes • Hydrogen peroxide • Disinfectants • Detergents
10. The storage of beer, distilled spirits and wine in barrels and casks.	19. The storage of beer, distilled spirits and wines in barrels and casks conforming to the requirements of the California Fire Code.	CFC Chapters 50 or 57 do not apply. This is for larger size containers of alcohol. See CFC Chapter 40. Group S-1 (if >16% alcohol) and S-2 (≤16% alcohol). Must meet Group S sprinkler requirements.
11. The use, storage or both dispensers containing alcohol-based hand rubs classified as Class I or II liquids where in accordance with Section 5705.5.		Wall-mounted dispensers of Hand sanitizer: must meet all the requirements in CFC Section 5705.5

12. Specific provisions for flammable liquids in motor fuel-dispensing facilities, repair garages, airports and marinas in Chapter 23.		Fuel-dispensing facilities, including fleet vehicles, Must comply with CFC Chapter 23. Storage of flammable liquids must comply with Chapter 57.
13. Storage and use of fuel oil in tanks and containers connected to oil-burning equipment. Such storage and use shall be in accordance with Section 605. For abandonment of fuel oil tanks, Chapter 57 applies.		Indoor storage of fuel used for building support. Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diesel tank connected to generator • Other fuel-fired appliances
14. Storage and display of aerosol products complying with Chapter 51.	12. Buildings and structures occupied for aerosol product storage, aerosol cooking spray products or plastic aerosol 4 products shall be classified as Group S-1, provided that such buildings conform to the requirements of the California Fire Code.	Aerosol storage and display. Must comply with CFC Chapter 51 and NFPA 30B.
13. Storage and use of flammable or combustible liquids that do not have a fire point when tested in accordance with ASTM D92, not otherwise regulated by this code.		Also exempt from CFC Chapter 57 requirements. Example: water-based paints.
16. Flammable or combustible liquids with a flash point greater than 95°F (35°C) in a water-miscible solution or dispersion with a water and inert (noncombustible) solids content of more than 80 percent by weight, which do not sustain		If they have other hazards—they are regulated by CFC Chapter 50. These are barely Class I liquids with water and (noncombustible) solids. Also exempt from CFC Chapter 57 requirements. Could include disinfecting

combustion, not otherwise regulated by this code.		wipes saturated with ethanol/isopropanol (CaviWipes)
17. Commercial cooking oil storage tank systems located within a building and designed and installed in accordance with Section 607 and NFPA 30.		Restaurants may have cooking oil storage tanks. Exempt ONLY if they meet conditions in CFC Section 607.
18. Medical gases used for patient care used within patient areas of a Group I-2 occupancy when the applicable requirements of NFPA 99 Chapter 5 and Chapter 11 have been met.		Only applies to cylinders in use in hospitals (Group I-2) when NFPA 99 conditions are met. Does NOT apply to storage of medical gases. Medical gases include: oxygen, nitrogen, nitrous oxide, carbon dioxide, helium, and medical air.
	1. Buildings and structures occupied for the application of flammable finishes, provided that such buildings or areas conform to the requirements of Section 416 and the California Fire Code.	CFC Chapter 24. Spray rooms. Application of flammable paint spray is exempt. Storage of material is NOT exempt from CFC Chapters 50, 57.
	2. Wholesale and retail sales and storage of flammable and combustible liquids in mercantile occupancies conforming to the California Fire Code.	Points to CFC Group M occupancy limits in Ch. 50 and Ch. 57. (Different MAQ tables)
	3. Closed piping systems containing flammable and combustible liquids or gases utilized for the operation of machinery or equipment.	Closed use for building maintenance or for operation of equipment. Must comply with CFC Section 605, Chapter 50, Chapter 57, and NFPA 31, as applicable.

	4. Cleaning establishments that utilize combustible liquid solvents having a flash point of 140°F (60°C) or higher in closed systems employing equipment listed by an approved testing agency, provided that this occupancy is separated from all other areas of the building by 1-hour fire barriers constructed in accordance with Section 707 or 1-hour horizontal assemblies constructed in accordance with Section 711, or both.	Dry cleaners (CFC Chapter 21) If they have flammable liquid solvents (Class I or II), they must meet additional criteria to be exempt.
	5. Cleaning establishments that utilize a liquid solvent having a flash point at or above 200°F (93°C).	Dry cleaners (CFC Chapter 21) Less flammable liquid (Class III) is exempt.
	6. Liquor stores and distributors without bulk storage.	
	7. Refrigeration systems.	
	8. The storage or utilization of materials for agricultural purposes on the premises.	
	9. Stationary storage battery systems installed in accordance with the California Fire Code.	
	10. Corrosive personal or household products in their original packaging used in retail display.	

	11. Commonly used corrosive building materials.	
	12. Buildings and structures occupied for aerosol product storage, aerosol cooking spray products or plastic aerosol 4 products shall be classified as Group S-1, provided that such buildings conform to the requirements of the California Fire Code.	
	13. Display and storage of nonflammable solid and nonflammable or noncombustible liquid hazardous materials in quantities not exceeding the maximum allowable quantity per control area in Group M or S occupancies complying with Section 414.2.5.	Group M or S occupancies have higher MAQs for nonflammable solids or liquids. Must comply with CBC Section 414.2.5. This corresponds to Group M/S requirements in Chapter 50, Section 5003.11.
	14. The storage of black powder, smokeless propellant and small arms primers in Group M and R-3 and special industrial explosive devices in Groups B, F, M and S, provided such storage conforms to the quantity limits and requirements prescribed in the California Fire Code.	CFC Chapter 56 allows certain limited quantities if conditions are met.
	15. Stationary fuel cell power systems installed in accordance with the California Fire Code.	Not considered Hazardous Materials: see CFC Chapter 12

	16. Capacitor energy storage systems in accordance with the California Fire Code.	Not considered Hazardous Materials: see CFC Chapter 12
	17. Group L occupancies defined in Section 453.	Group L has different MAQ limits compared with Group B occupancies. L-occupancy requirements are in the CBC, Section 453, with reference to MAQ Tables (CBC Tables 307.1(1-2) and CFC Tables 5003.1.1(1-2))
	18. Distilling or brewing of beverages conforming to the requirements of the California Fire Code.	CFC Chapter 50 and 57 requirements for process would apply.
	19. The storage of beer, distilled spirits and wines in barrels and casks conforming to the requirements of the California Fire Code.	

CFC – California Fire Code
 CBC - California Building Code
 IFC – International Fire Code
 IBC – International Building Code
 NFPA – National Fire Protection Association