

Department of Chemistry Safety Moment of the Month



Proper Storage of Gas Cylinders April 2023



Gas cylinders can contain some pressure even when empty!

If the stem is damaged, gas cylinders become **rockets** that can go through <u>concrete walls</u> and <u>ceilings</u>, shooting *at least* 100 feet into the air.

Know your gases: Gases, like chemicals, may need to be stored away from other incompatible gases (i.e. oxygen should not be stored near hydrogen)

Secure all cylinders with chains! Make sure the correct <u>cap</u> is on all cylinders!

- (1) https://drs.illinois.edu/Page/SafetyLibrary/CompressedGasCylinderSafety
- (2) https://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/webnotes/biosafety/2002.cfm
- (3) https://labsafety.jhu.edu/2020/01/03/top-10-compressed-gas-safety-issues/