

Acceptable footwear in laboratories

This poster provides guidance for selecting appropriate footwear when working in laboratories, where there is a risk of spills from hazardous chemicals and/or microbiological materials.

Footwear:

- ♦ Should be fully enclosed;
- Should be able to be easily cleaned and decontaminated;
- Should have a thick, non-slip sole;
- ◆ Should be reasonably impermeable to spills i.e. the material and construction should allow the wearer sufficient time to wipe off the spill or remove the shoe without the spill saturating quickly through to the skin. Leather or synthetic leather is best. Shoes that have large perforations or a full mesh upper or thin material inserts that are permeable to liquids should not be worn.

Below are some examples that demonstrate suitable and unsuitable footwear.





Remember!

The risk of spills may arise from activities occurring around you in the laboratory.

