

MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

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 or **Dial 911** American Poison Control Center

SECTION 1 – PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION			
Material Name: SOAPSTONE		NOT A CONTROLLED PRODUCT	
Chemical Family Inorganic Compound	Chemical Formula Calcium Carbonate Mixture	Molecular Weight Not Applicable	
Material Use Aggregates		DOT Identification No. None	
Trade Name and Synonyms Baby Powder, Talc, Talcum, Magnesium Silicate Hydrate, Magnesium Silicate Hydroxide, Steatite, Slab, Tile.			

SECTION 2 – COMPOSITION AND INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS				
COMPONENTS CHEMICAL NAME	CAS REGISTRY NO.	% by WEIGHT (approximate)	MSHA/OSHA PEL	ACGIH TLV-TWA
Magnesium Silicate (Talc), $Mg_3 Si_4 O_{10} (OH)_2$	14807-96-6	97 – 100	(T) 15 mg/m ³ (R) 2 mg/m ³	(T) #10 mg/m ³ (R) 1 mg/m ³
Silicon Dioxide*, SiO ₂ (Crystalline Silica as Quartz)	14808-60-7	0.1 – 2.0	(R) 10 mg/m ³ / (% SiO ₂ + 2) §	(R) 0.05 mg/m ³
Calcite, CaCO ₃	13397-26-7	0.0 – 2.0	Not Evaluated	Not Evaluated
Chlorite, ClO ₂	1318-59-8	0.0 – 2.0	Not Evaluated	Not Evaluated

*: The composition of SiO₂ may be up to 100% crystalline silica. (R): Respirable (T): Total §: Crystalline silica is normally measured as respirable dust. The OSHA standard also presents a formula for calculation of the PEL based on total dust: 30 mg/m³ / (% SiO₂ + 2). #: Particulate matter containing no asbestos and <1% crystalline silica. OSHA LISTS THESE AS CATEGORY “B” STONES (USUALLY CONTAINING LESS THAN 1% CRYSTALLINE SILICA), CONSIDERED TO BE A NUISANCE PARTICULATE FROM DUST THAT CAN ACCUMULATE IN THE LUNGS. AVOID DUST PRODUCTION BY CUTTING UNDER WATER, AND USE PROTECTIVE BREATHING APPARATUS AND EYE PROTECTION, AS OUTLINED IN SECTION 8.

SECTION 3 – PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

Appearance and Odor White, Off-White, Grey. Odorless.	Specific Gravity (g/cm ³) 2.6 – 2.9 at 20 °C	
Boiling Point Decomposes at 1652 °F – 1832 °F (900 °C – 1000 °C)	Vapor Density in Air (Air = 1) Not applicable	
Vapor Pressure Not applicable	% Volatile, by Volume 0%	
Evaporation Rate 0%	pH Slightly basic	Solubility in Water Negligible

SECTION 4 – STABILITY AND REACTIVITY DATA

Stability Stable	Hazardous Polymerization Not known to polymerize
Conditions to Avoid Avoid contact with incompatible materials (see below) and exposure to crystalline silica (quartz) dust particles, usually generated while cutting, crushing, sawing, or removing.	
Incompatibility (material to avoid) Silica reacts violently with powerful oxidizing agents such as fluorine, boron trifluoride, chlorine trifluoride, manganese trifluoride, and oxygen difluoride may cause fire and/or explosions. Silica dissolves readily in hydrofluoric acid producing a corrosive gas – silicon tetra fluoride.	
Hazardous Decomposition Products Silica-containing respirable dust particles may release from handling or cutting.	

SECTION 5 – HAZARDS AND TOXICITY

Exposure Limits Below is a definition of exposure limits in the workplace, that is especially important when contact with this product and other chemicals is concurrent. Unless specified otherwise, limits are eight-hour time-weighted averages (TWA). Limits for cristobalite and tridymite (other forms of crystalline silica) are equal to one-half of the limits for quartz.
Inhalable Particulate Limits <ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ 2001 ACGIH TLV[®] = 10 mg/m³ (inhalable /total particulate, not otherwise specified)◆ 2001 ACGIH TLV[®] = 1 mg/m³ (respirable particulate, not otherwise specified)◆ OSHA PEL = 15 mg/m³ (total particulate, not otherwise regulated)◆ OSHA PEL = 2 mg/m³ (respirable particulate, not otherwise regulated).
Respirable Limit, Crystalline Silica (SiO ₂ or Quartz) ACGIH TLV[®] = 0.1 mg/m³; MSHA and OSHA PEL = 15 mg/m³ (%SiO₂ + 2), for respirable dust containing crystalline silica.

<p>Total Dust Limits, Respirable and Nonrespirable 1973 ACGIH TLV[®] = 2 mg/m³ ÷ (% quartz + 3). MSHA PEL = 10 mg/m³ for nuisance particulates listed in Appendix E of the 1973 ACGIH TLV[®] booklet. [Appendix E includes: alundum (Al₂O₃); calcium carbonate; cellulose (paper fiber); Portland cement; corundum (Al₂O₃); emery; glass {fibrous (< 5-7 μm in diameter) or dust}; glycerin mist; graphite (synthetic); gypsum; vegetable oil mists (except castor, cashew nut, or similar irritant oils); kaolin; Soapstone; magnesite; marble; pentacrythritol; plaster of Paris; rouge; silicon carbide; starch; sucrose; tin oxide; and titanium dioxide].</p>		
<p>Route of Entry</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Skin Contact</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Skin Absorption</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eye Contact</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ingestion</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Acute Inhalation</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chronic Inhalation</p>
<p>Effects of Acute Exposure to Product</p> <p>Skin Direct contact may cause dryness, irritation by mechanical abrasion, or skin allergies. Skin absorption usually is not a significant route of exposure.</p> <p>Eyes Direct contact with dust while cutting or removing may cause eye irritation by mechanical abrasion with discomfort or pain, local redness, and swelling of the conjunctiva.</p> <p>Inhalation If inhaled in the form of dust, it may cause nose, throat, and respiratory tract irritation by mechanical abrasion or corrosive action. Exposures in <u>excess</u> of appropriate exposure limits may cause coughing, sneezing, chest pain, shortness of breath, and inflammation of mucous membrane due to mechanical irritation. One also may experience a flu-like fever. This product produces a harmful concentration of airborne particles quickly when cutting.</p> <p>Ingestion Small amounts (a tablespoonful) swallowed during normal handling operations are not likely to cause injury. Ingestion of large amounts may cause gastrointestinal irritation and/or blockage.</p> <p>Use of soapstone for construction purposes should not cause acute toxic effects. However, inhaling respirable dust may aggravate existing respiratory system disease(s) and/or dysfunctions. Exposure to dust may aggravate existing eye conditions.</p>		
<p>Effects of Chronic Exposure to Soapstone Dust</p> <p>Quartz is a natural constituent of the Earth's crust and is not chemically combined with any other substance. Soapstone usually contains less than 2% silica. Exposure to silica-containing dust at any time poses a potential health hazard. Repeated overexposure to very high levels of respirable crystalline silica (quartz, cristobalite, tridymite) for periods of six months or more have caused acute silicosis, and repeated exposure to dust may result in talc pneumoconiosis. Not all individuals with silicosis will exhibit symptoms (signs) of the disease. Acute silicosis is a rapidly progressive, incurable lung disease that is typically fatal. Symptoms can appear at any time, even years after exposure has ceased. Symptoms include (but are not limited to): shortness of breath, diminished work capacity, cough, fever, right heart enlargement and/or failure, weight loss, and chest pain. Excessive inhalation of dust may result in respiratory disease, including silicosis, pneumoconiosis, and pulmonary fibrosis (scarring of the lungs). Persons with silicosis have an increased risk of pulmonary tuberculosis (TB) infection. Smoking may increase the risk of developing lung disorders, including emphysema and lung cancer. Respirable dust containing newly broken silica particles has been shown to be more hazardous to animals in laboratory tests than respirable dust containing older silica particles of similar size.</p>		
<p>Irritancy of Product</p> <p>Eyes</p>	<p>Sensitization to Product</p> <p>None</p>	<p>Synergistic Materials</p> <p>None reported</p>

SECTION 6 – FIRST AID MEASURES

Eyes

Immediately rinse contaminated eye(s) with gently running lukewarm water (saline solution is preferred) for at least 15 minutes, while holding the eyelid(s) open. In the case of an embedded particle in the eye, or if irritation occurs, consult a physician. Beyond flushing, do not attempt to remove material from the eye(s).

Skin

Carefully and gently, brush the contaminated body surfaces in order to remove all traces of stone dust. Use a brush, cloth, or gloves. Remove all contaminated clothing. Wash work clothes after each use. Wash dust-exposed skin with soap and water before eating or drinking. Contact a physician if irritation persists or later develops.

Inhalation

Move source of dust away from person, or move victim to source of fresh air. Dust in throat and nasal passages should clear spontaneously. Obtain medical attention immediately. If victim does not breathe, give artificial respiration. Contact a physician immediately.

Ingestion

If victim is conscious, wash out mouth with water. Have conscious person drink several glasses of water. Induce vomiting. Contact a physician immediately. Never give anything by mouth to an unconscious or convulsing person.

General Advice

Consult a physician for all exposures except minor instances of inhalation.

SECTION 8 – PREVENTATIVE MEASURES, PERSONAL PROTECTION, AND CONTROLS

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Wear eye and respiratory protection selected for the working conditions.

Eyes



Wear safety glasses with side shields as minimum protection. Wear dust goggles when excessively (visible) dusty conditions are present or anticipated.

Skin

Protective gloves are not required, but may help prevent skin dryness or irritation due to skin allergies.

Respiratory Protection



- ◆ **Wear a NIOSH approved dust respirator for respirable quartz levels that exceed or are likely to exceed an 8-hr TWA of 0.05 mg/m³.**
- ◆ **Wear a NIOSH approved HEPA filter respirator for respirable quartz levels that exceed or are likely to exceed an 8-hr TWA of 10.0 mg/m³.**
- ◆ **Wear a NIOSH approved positive pressure, full face respirator or equivalent if respirable quartz levels exceed or are likely to exceed an 8-hr TWA of 20 mg/m³.**
- ◆ **Respirator use must comply with applicable MSHA or OSHA standards, which include provisions for a user-training program, respirator repair and cleaning, respirator fit testing, and other requirements.**

Hygiene

Wash dust-exposed skin with soap and water before eating, drinking, smoking, and using toilet facilities. Wash work clothes after each use. Avoid breathing dust and eye contact.

Engineering Controls

- ◆ **Ventilation: Use local exhaust, general ventilation, or natural ventilation adequate to maintain exposures below appropriate exposure limits.**
- ◆ **Respirable dust and quartz levels should be monitored regularly.**
- ◆ **Dust and quartz levels in excess of appropriate exposure limits should be reduced by all feasible engineering controls including (but not limited to) wet suppression, ventilation, process enclosure, and enclosed employee work stations.**

SECTION 9 – STORAGE AND HANDLING PRECAUTIONS

Protection

Respirable talc and crystalline silica-containing dust usually appears during processing, cutting, drilling, routing, storage, and removal. Use personal protection and controls identified in Section 8 of this MSDS as appropriate. Avoid contact with eyes, and do not breathe dust.

Storage

Do not store near food and beverages or smoking materials. Shelf life is unlimited.

Handling

This product is not an abrasive blasting medium or for foundry applications. Do not stand on stacked tiles, as they may be unstable. Use appropriate equipment for handling large pieces: forklift, jacks, etc. and follow all safety rules. Store tiles using appropriately strong racks and crates designed to handle large loads. Store slabs on edge in strong racks.

SECTION 10 – SPILL OR LEAK CLEANUP AND WASTE DISPOSAL

Material Release or Spill

- ◆ Spilled material where dust occurs, may overexpose cleanup personnel to respirable crystalline silica-containing dust.
- ◆ Use the personal protection and controls identified in Section 8 of this MSDS as appropriate.
- ◆ Wetting of spilled material and/or use of respiratory protective equipment may be necessary.
- ◆ Spilled material should not be dry swept. Use water or a vacuum instead.
- ◆ Prevent spilled material from inadvertently entering streams, drains, or sewers.
- ◆ Train all personnel on handling and safety rules for working with soapstone, forklifts, sampling, etc. as needed.

Waste Disposal

- ◆ Collect and reuse clean material.
- ◆ Dispose of waste materials in accordance with applicable federal, state, provincial, and local environmental laws and regulations.

SECTION 11 – FIRE AND EXPLOSION HAZARD DATA

Flammable

Yes No

Extinguishing Media

Soapstone does not burn. Use extinguishing media appropriate to surrounding fire conditions.

Special Fire Fighting Procedures

Soapstone is generally non-flammable, but ignites on contact with powerful oxidizing agents such as fluorine, boron trifluoride, chlorine trifluoride, manganese trifluoride, and oxygen difluoride. These substances may cause fire and/or explosions. Silica dissolves readily in hydrofluoric acid producing a corrosive gas – silicon tetra fluoride. Wear adequate personal protection to prevent contact with material or its combustion products. Firefighters should use self-contained NIOSH approved breathing apparatus with full face piece to protect against the products of combustion.

Flash point (°C) and Method
Not applicable

Upper flammable limit
Not applicable

Lower flammable limit
Not applicable

Auto Ignition Temperature (°C)
Not applicable

TDG Flammability Classification
Not applicable

Hazardous Combustion Products
None

Dangerous Combustion Products **None**

EXPLOSION DATA

Sensitivity to Chemical Impact
Not applicable

Rate of Burning
Not applicable

Explosive Power
Not applicable

Sensitivity to Static Discharge
Not applicable

SECTION 12 – TRANSPORT INFORMATION

Dot Hazard Classification – 49 CFR 172.101
Non-Regulated by D.O.T.

Placard Required
None

Label Required
Label as required by the OSHA Hazard Communication standard {29 CFR 1910.1200 (f)}, and applicable state and local regulations.

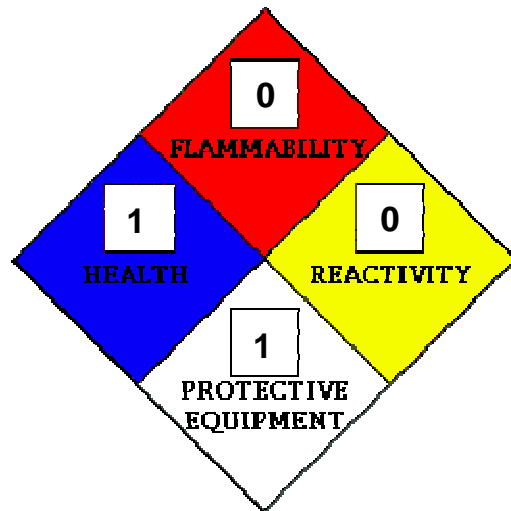
RQ (Reportable Quantity) – 49 CFR 172.101
Not applicable

MATERIAL IDENTIFICATION SYSTEMS – LABELING

[May be required by the OSHA Hazard Communication standard {29 CFR 1910.1200 (f)}, and applicable state and local regulations]



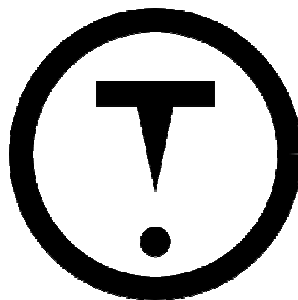
Hazardous Materials Identification System (U.S.)



National Fire Protection Association (U.S.)

Where:

0 = Least 1 = Slight 2 = Moderate
 3 = High 4 = Extreme



D-2A

Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (Canada)
 Classification D2A Materials causing other toxic effects

SECTION 13 – GLOSSARY

Agencies and Regulations

ACGIH: American Conference of Government Industrial Hygienists
CFR: US Code of Federal Regulations
DOT: US Department of Transportation
DSL: Domestic Substances List
IARC: International Agency for Research on Cancer
NIOSH: National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
NTP: National Toxicology Program
OSHA: Occupational Safety and Health Administration, US Department of Labor
SARA: Title III of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act, 1986

Abbreviations and Definitions

- ◆ **IDLH:** Immediately Dangerous to Life and Health
- ◆ **mg/m³** = milligrams of substance per cubic meter of air.
- ◆ **MSHA PEL** = Permissible Exposure Limit of the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA)
- ◆ **OSHA PEL** = Permissible Exposure Limit of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)
- ◆ **TLV[®]** = Threshold Limit Value of the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH)
- ◆ **TWA** = Time-Weighted Average
- ◆ **Inhalable** = All dust capable of entering the human respiratory tract.
- ◆ **Respirable dust** = is airborne material which is capable of penetrating to the gas-exchange region of the lungs.

Sources Used

NFPA, TDG, CSST, RSST, (LSRO-FASEB), Hazardous Products Act, Environment Canada, Enviroguide, OSHA, ACGIH, IARC, NIOSH, CFR, NTP, HSDB, EPA SRS, MSHA, Geology of the nonmetals, Health Canada, Pioneer Talc MSDS, Summerset Cosmetic Co. MSDS, Whittaker, Clark & Daniels MSDS, Cumberland Swan MSDS.

SECTION 14 – PREPARATION OF THIS DOCUMENT

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Notice

Pental Granite & Marble believes the information contained herein is accurate. The suggested precautions and recommendations come from recognized good work practices and experience as of the date of publication. They are not necessarily all-inclusive or fully adequate in every circumstance, as one cannot anticipate all use situations. However, the suggestions should not be confused with nor followed in violation of applicable laws, regulation, rules, insurance requirements, or safety practices. In addition, do not use product in a manner that could cause harm.

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