

STAY SAFE WITH SOCIETY

OXYGEN CYLINDER SAFETY

Oxygen cylinders are compressed gas tanks that contain oxygen. There are many other types of compressed gas tanks. Oxygen cylinders and other compressed gas tanks may become rockets if improperly handled. The pressure contained within a cylinder is enough to propel the cylinder through a masonry wall or travel half a mile or more. They can rupture, explode, spin, ricochet, crash, and punch through anything in their path. No matter the size, treat the compressed gas cylinder with respect.

Checklist:

- When in storage, keep a minimum of 20 feet between oxygen cylinders and fuel sources, or maintain a non-combustible barrier between the oxygen cylinders and fuel-gas cylinders (such as acetylene cylinders). The barrier must be at least 5 feet high with a fire-resistance rating of at least 30 minutes.
- Keep valve protective caps or collars in place, straight, and snug unless the cylinder is being used.
- Keep cylinders, valves, and couplings free of oil and grease.
- Do not handle cylinders with oily hands or gloves.
- Keep valves on empty cylinders closed.
- Do not use cylinders (whether full or empty) as rollers.
- Keep valve protective caps in place during transit, and do not use them for lifting cylinders.
- Use appropriate tools (keys, handles, or non-adjustable wrenches) to open cylinder valves.
- Do not drop cylinders or handle them roughly.
- Do not take cylinders containing oxygen into confined spaces.
- Never tamper with safety devices and valves.
- Secure all cylinders (whether full or empty) properly to prevent them from falling over.



**NO MATTER THE
SIZE, TREAT THE
COMPRESSED GAS
CYLINDER WITH
RESPECT.**

A Small Detail
That Can Make a
Big Difference.

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