

- Additional limitations apply to buildings with smoke compartments such as hospitals and institutional occupancies see 527 CMR 1.00: 60.5.2(4) & (5).

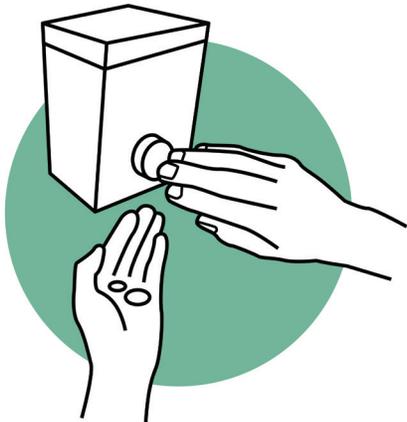
Location

527 CMR 1.00: 10.22.1(2)

527 CMR 1.00:60.5.2(6)

527 CMR 1.00: 60.5.2(7)

- Dispensers must be at least 48 inches apart.
- Dispensers must be 1 inch away from an ignition source in every direction.
- Dispensers may be installed directly over carpeted floors only in sprinklered areas of the building.



Dispenser Operation

527 CMR 1.00: 60.5.2(9)

- The dispenser can only release its contents:
 - when activated manually or by an automatic sensor;
 - when an object is within 4 inches of the automatic sensor.;
 - in an amount to clean hands, consistent with instructions.
- An object left in the “activation zone” can only cause a single release of sanitizer.
- The dispenser must be designed, built, and used to minimize accidental or malicious activation.
- The dispenser must be tested in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions with each refill.

Building owners and managers should consult with the local building official and follow the full provisions of the State Building Code when planning hand sanitizer system installations. See 780 CMR or 527 CMR 1.00.

For more information and questions, contact the DFS Code Compliance Helpdesk at 978-567-3375.

Hand Sanitizer Fire Prevention

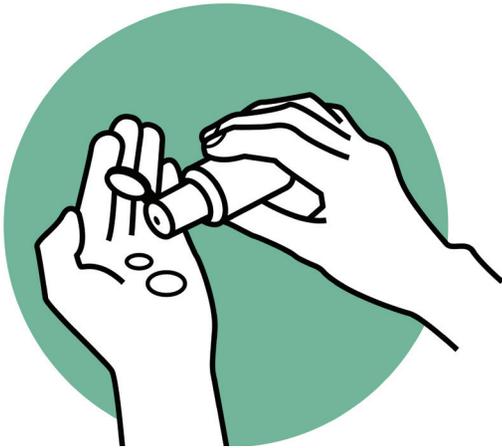


Guide to storing and using hand sanitizer in public and work settings.



This pamphlet summarizes fire prevention regulations affecting the use and storage of alcohol-based hand sanitizer, which has become common during the COVID-19 pandemic. Many businesses, schools and healthcare facilities stock and provide hand sanitizer to customers, visitors and employees. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommends a 70% alcohol mixture for hand sanitizer. Seventy percent alcohol classifies most hand sanitizers as a Class IB or Class IC flammable liquid. The Massachusetts State Building Code, 780 CMR, and the Comprehensive State Fire Code, 527 CMR 1.00, regulate the use and storage of alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

The Department of Fire Services website has links to the building and fire codes and many helpful advisories. Visit www.mass.gov/dfs and search for *FSD Advisories*.



Storage

780 CMR and 527 CMR 1.00

- Bulk quantities of most hand sanitizers (Class IB and IC flammable liquids), are limited in non-hazardous use buildings. [780 CMR Table 307.1(1)]
 - Up to 120 gallons can be stored in a non-sprinklered building.
 - Up to 240 gallons can be stored in a building sprinklered in compliance with 2013 NFPA 13.
 - Up to 480 gallons can be stored in a building sprinklered in compliance with 2013 NFPA 13, and in approved storage (rated and ventilated flammable cabinets).
- Most hand sanitizers must be included in the calculation of the maximum amount of all the Class IB and IC flammable liquids in the building. The liquids may include concentrated cleaning supplies, manufacturing products, and other chemicals.
- If the amount of flammable liquid is higher than the values in 780 CMR Table 307.1(1), owners have two options: add more control areas or classify the building as Use Group H (Hazardous). See 780 CMR 414 and 415 for more information.
 - A permit from the fire department is required to store more than 10 gallons of Class IB and IC flammable liquids, including hand sanitizer. [527 CMR 1.00: 1.12.8.50]

- Changes to storage or amounts of chemicals must comply with the permit of 780 CMR and 527 CMR 1.00.

Use in Dispensers

527 CMR 1.00

Wall-mounted and free-standing dispensers can be temporary and portable. If dispensers are moved from their original locations, owners must follow all installation and use regulations.

Capacity

527 CMR 1.00: 10.22.1; 60.5.2

The capacity of all dispensers is limited, based on the type and location of the unit:

- The maximum capacity of dispensing units in areas open to corridors is 41 oz. (0.32 gal or 1.2 L).
- The maximum capacity of dispensing units in rooms, or suites of rooms, and separated from corridors is 67 oz. (0.53 gal or 2.0L).
- Aerosol dispensers are limited to 18 oz. and must be classified as "Level 1" – low hazard (check the manufacturer's information). [527 CMR 1.00: 61.1.3.2]