

Special Rules for the use of Acetylene Cylinders

(provided courtesy of National Welders Supply Inc. <http://www.nwsc.com>)

1. Acetylene should never be used at a pressure exceeding 15 pounds per square inch.
2. Acetylene cylinders should be used and stored in an upright position to avoid possibility of drawing out acetone.
3. Keep sparks and flame away from Acetylene cylinders.
4. Never use Acetylene from cylinders through blowpipes or other devices equipped with shut off valves on the Acetylene supply connections, without reducing the pressure through a suitable regulator attached to the cylinder valve.
5. After removing valve cap, open valve for a moment to clear opening of dust or dirt particles.
6. After attaching regulator and before cylinder valve is opened, see that adjusting screw of the regulator is released. Always keep the Acetylene cylinder valve key or wrench on the cylinder while in use. Never open an Acetylene cylinder valve more than one full turn; then, in case of fire, the valve can be closed immediately.
7. Before regulator is removed from a cylinder, close the cylinder valve and release all gas from regulator.
8. Never attempt to transfer Acetylene from one cylinder to another nor to mix any other gas with it in the cylinder.
9. The wrench used for opening the cylinder valve should always be kept on the valve stem when cylinder is in use.
10. When returning empty cylinders, see that valves are closed to prevent evaporation of acetone.
11. Never, under any circumstances, attempt to refill an Acetylene cylinder.
12. Never test for Acetylene leaks with an open flame. Use an approved leak detector or solution.

13. Do not place Acetylene cylinders near furnaces, boilers or other sources of high temperature, or hot metal. Never attempt to drain an Acetylene cylinder by placing it close to a stove or a furnace. Let cylinders warm slowly in cold weather to room temperature to permit full discharge of gas.
14. Do not use a partly discharged Acetylene cylinder to supply a large welding or heating tip for outdoor work in very cold weather. Use filled cylinders stored for several hours in warm rooms.
15. Acetylene must be stored at least 20 feet from Oxygen storage.
16. Acetylene cylinders stored inside of buildings, except those in actual use or attached to lines ready for use, must be limited to a total gas capacity of 2000 cubic feet.