

## **Special Rules for the use of Oxygen Cylinders**

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

1. Never permit oil and grease to come in contact with Oxygen cylinders, valves, regulators, gauges and fittings.
2. Never use Oxygen from a cylinder without reducing the pressure through a suitable regulator intended for that purpose only. Stand to the valve side of the regulator when opening cylinder valve.
3. Pressure regulators should never be changed by workers with greasy hands. Never test the pressure in an Oxygen cylinder by holding a gloved hand over the nozzle. An oil soaked glove may catch fire and cause the loss of one's fingers or severe burns.
4. After removing valve cap, open valve for a moment to clear opening of dust or dirt particles.
5. If valve is difficult to open, point the valve opening away from you and use greater force. Avoid, however, the use of a wrench on valves equipped with hand wheels.
6. Never permit Oxygen to enter the regulator suddenly. Open the cylinder valve slowly.
7. Before regulator is removed from a cylinder, close the cylinder valve and release all gas from regulator.
8. Avoid sparks or flame from welding or cutting torch coming in contact with cylinders.
9. Fully open the cylinder valve when cylinder is in use.
10. Oxygen must never be used to blow dust out of clothing or to freshen the air in closed places. Serious burns may result from such practices.
11. Oxygen must be stored at least 20 feet from fuel gases such as Acetylene, Hydrogen, Methane, Propane, etc.