

Absolutely no turpentine or mineral spirits are to be used in the painting studios. Exposure can lead to dizziness, nausea, vomiting, seizure, central nervous system damage, brain damage and death. Many commercially prepared painting mediums contain mineral spirits. Please read the labels.

Additionally, please refrain from wearing perfume, cologne or scents of any kind.

In general, solvents are one of the most underrated hazards in art. They are used for a million purposes: to dissolve and mix with oils, resins, varnishes, inks; to remove paint, varnish, lacquers; to clean brushes, tools, silk screens and even hands. As a result, artists are continually being exposed to solvents.

Almost all organic solvents are poisonous if swallowed or inhaled in sufficient quantity, and most cause dermatitis after sufficient skin contact. High concentrations of most solvents can cause narcosis (dizziness, nausea, fatigue, loss of coordination, coma, and the like). This can increase the chances for mistakes and accidents. As mentioned earlier, long-term exposure to high concentrations of many solvents can cause brain damage.

by Michael McCann, PhD, CIH

Danger! Aspiration hazard. Combustible. Harmful or fatal if swallowed. Harmful by breathing vapors. Exposure may result in nausea, headache, confusion, instability or in irritation of the eyes or chest.

from the text on a container of Weber Odorless Turpenoid

High concentrations of vapor or mist may cause nausea, vomiting, headaches, dizziness, loss of coordination, numbness, and other central nervous system effects. Massive acute overexposure may cause rapid central nervous system depression, sudden collapse, coma, and/or death.

from Odorless Mineral Spirits Material Safety Data Sheet, MSDS Form No. 82739

Mineral spirits definition-a petroleum distillate that is used especially as a paint or varnish thinner.

from Merriam-Webster