

# METHYL TERTIARY BUTYL ETHER (MTBE)

## Chemical Names:

Methyl Tertiary Butyl Ether  
tert-Butyl Methyl Ether  
MTBE  
2-Methoxy-2-Methylpropane

## Chemical Family:

Alkyl Ether

## Components - May Contain Variable Amounts of:

N/A - Usually 97% pure product

## Extinguishing Media

Dry chemical, CO<sub>2</sub>, alcohol type foam. Use water fog/water spray for cooling.

## Fire and Explosion Hazards:

Releases flammable vapors below normal ambient temperatures. When mixed with air and exposed to ignition source, vapors can burn in open or explode if confined. Flammable vapors may be heavier than air. May travel long distances along ground before igniting and flashing back explosively.

## Special Fire Fighting Procedures and Precautions:

**EXTREMELY FLAMMABLE!** Do not enter fire area without NIOSH/MSHA approved air-purifying or supplied air respirator. Burning may produce Carbon Monoxide and/or other toxic vapors. Water may be ineffective in firefighting due to low flash point. Notify authorities if liquid enters sewer/public waters.

## Health Hazards:

Slight irritant to eyes and/or skin. Prolonged inhalation may cause coughing, shortness of breath, dizziness and intoxication. If ingested in large quantities, possible slight health hazard. No skin absorption hazard found.