

BROKEN GLASS BOXES: The DO's and DO NOT's for Lab Use



DO

- Use a sturdy cardboard box and puncture-resistant plastic liner kit designed for this purpose (Fisher# 12-009-7A).
- Assemble the box/bag kit according to the instructions. (Most brands print instructions on the box itself.)
- Place box in a dry place away from splashing water.
- Place entire box in a plastic bin to prevent spills from wicking up box.
- Use this box to dispose of broken glass or cleaned/decontaminated and unwanted glass vessels.
- Routinely check the box to ensure that it gets closed and discarded before it's overfilled or structurally degraded.
- Close the box following the manufacturer's instructions.
- Use packing or duct tape to tape the lid securely closed on all four sides. Use a marker to label closed box as "trash". Place the box next to the lab trash can for pick-up with regular lab trash (unless otherwise specified by your department).

DO NOT

- Don't use any old box or bag (especially NO biohazard bags!).
- Don't forget to install the puncture-resistant plastic bag inside the box, leaving the top open and folded over the outside of the box.
- Don't dispose of liquids or glassware containing liquids. They will ruin the structural integrity and cause the box to fail.
- Don't store box directly on the floor.
- **Don't put these items in a broken glassware box:**
 - glassware contaminated with hazards
 - needles, syringes, scalpels or other biological sharps waste
 - mercury-containing materials (i.e., thermometers)
 - biological materials
 - chemicals
 - radioactive materials
 - general lab trash (i.e., towels, wrappers)

Don't abandon a box- when in doubt, contact VU EHS (ehs@vanderbilt.edu) for assistance with disposing of a box that contains hazards or has become damaged.



This is a well-maintained box with the bag/liner properly installed and a tray to protect the bottom.



This box got wet from a spill in the lab at some point; over time, the box's integrity is compromised, and this will now require special handling for safe disposal.