

Rubble Road Soapstone Classroom Handling Sheet

Product: Brazillian Soapstone

Year : 2021

Supplier: Rubble Road Soapstone

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Our Soapstone Composition - Brazillian

Soapstone is found in deposits all over the world from Canada, Brazil, India, China and Africa. Soapstone (also known as steatite or soaprock) is a talc-schist, which is a type of metamorphic rock. It is composed largely of the magnesium rich mineral talc.

Our soapstone is Brazillian.

6mg/m³ TWA Inhalable (total) dust **containing no asbestos and 0 % crystalline silica.**

Odorless solid; 10% tremolite, 1% silica, crystalline.

Main composition; Massive Talc; Steatite.

Soapstone does not meet the criteria of Canadian Hazardous Products Act, and is therefore not considered to be a "hazardous product" under WHMIS legislation: WHMIS safety data sheets (SDS) are not necessary.

Hazard Identification

Fragrance: None, has no smell

Dust: Should not be inhaled, carve around water so water absorbs the dust and does not become airborne.

Environmental Effects: Drain water out of tubs into the sink, wipe out with paper towel and rinse the tub in the sink. Soapstone does not contain any chemicals or hazards that cannot be washed down the sink.

Dust Contact in Eyes: Rinse with water

Ingestion: We do not recommend eating it, however this type of soapstone dust is used as a thickening agent in soft serve ice cream. Soapstone is made into countertops, cooking vessels such as pizza stones and even used as ice cubes in drinks.

Heat: Soapstone is heat resistant and cannot catch fire

Solubility: Insoluble

Short Term Risks - None. The available toxicological data contains no evidence that an acute exposure to a high concentration of soapstone would impede escape or cause any irreversible health effects.

Long Term Risks - People working in prolonged years of exposure to airborne dust should wear a respirator such as stone miners and professional sculptors. Just as an artist would with their paint, resins or wood. The toxic effects of talc result from chronic exposures to this substance and can be mitigated with carving in water or wearing a respirator.

We do not carve other stones in class but for your records:

For quartz, marble, limestone, and alabaster carving classes at the school, health and safety insist we recommend providing a complete sealed respirator for these students.

Also this is a great article about touching mineral samples in the classroom:

https://www.academia.edu/40433628/An_Overview_of_Minerals_Toxicity