

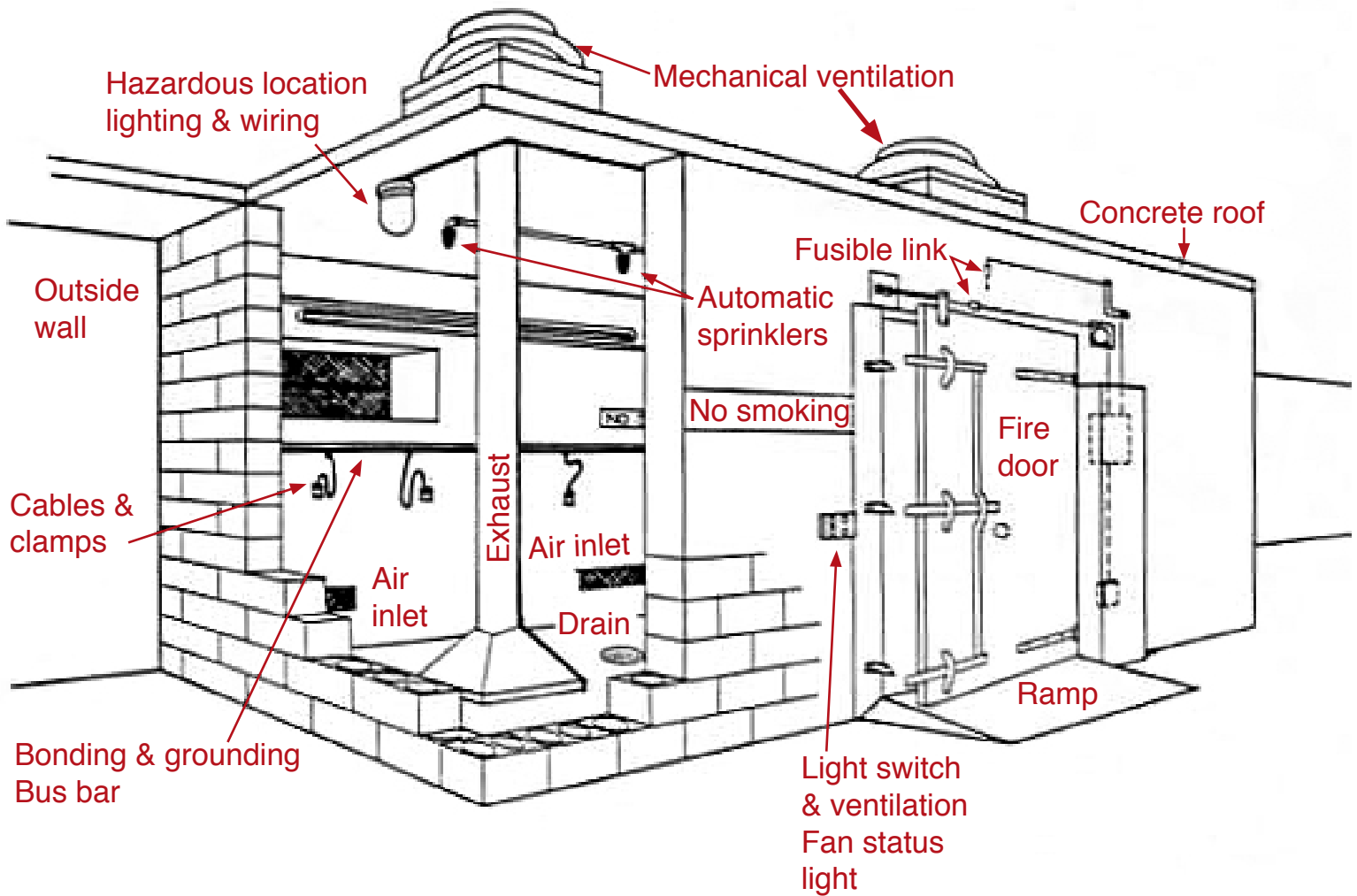
Flammable and Combustible Liquids – Storage Rooms

Storage rooms are used when larger quantities of flammable and combustible liquids need to be stored indoors and are more than what's acceptable for a fire safety cabinet. Here's a list of requirements for a flammable liquid storage room.

- Construction is to comply with the test specifications included in NFPA 251-1969, *Standard Methods of Fire Tests of Building Construction and Materials*.
- Every inside storage room must provide either a gravity or a mechanical exhaust ventilation system to allow for a complete change of air within the room at least six times per hour.
- Where gravity ventilation is provided, the fresh air intake, as well as the exhaust outlet from the room, must be on the exterior of the building in which the room is located.
- The room should not be more than 500 square feet.
- Containers with more than a 30-gallon capacity cannot be stacked one upon the other.
- One clear aisle, at least three feet wide, must be maintained inside every flammable storage room.
- Interior walls and ceiling should have a three-hour fire resistance. The exterior wall should have accessibility for fire-fighting operations through windows, access panel, or lightweight noncombustible wall panels.
- Explosion venting capability through lightweight wall assemblies or through windows designed for this purpose must be present in the storage room.
- All openings in interior walls should be protected by automatic three-hour-rated fire doors. Doors must be self-closing and latch completely.
- For containment (to prevent fuel spread), liquid-tight curbs should be provided with ramps at least four inches in height across the width of the opening. An open-grilled trench on the inside face which drains to a safe location is also an acceptable option.
- All electrical equipment and wiring shall be UL Listed (fireproof) for Class I Division 2 hazardous locations.
- There are limitations in the amount of flammables that can be stored in the room. It will vary and depend on whether the room is sprinkled or not. This chart shows the quantities allowed per square foot.

Total Floor Area (ft ²)	Automatic Fire Protection Provided?*	Total Allowable Quantity (gal/ft ² of floor area)
≤150	No Yes	2
>150 and ≤500	No Yes	4 10

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For more information about the safe handling, transfer, and storage of flammable and combustible liquids, please also see West Bend Technical Bulletins: Flammable and Combustible Liquids – Storage, Flammable and Combustible Liquids – Storage Cabinets, and Grounding and Bonding.