

COSHH Summary Sheet – Rock Salt (Sodium Chloride)

Substance Name: Rock Salt (Sodium Chloride)

Use: De-icing roads, pavements, and public areas

Form: Granular solid (may produce dust when handled)

Hazard Identification

- Irritant:** May cause skin and eye irritation on prolonged contact
- Dust Inhalation:** Can cause respiratory discomfort if airborne particles are inhaled
- Environmental:** Harmful to vegetation and aquatic life in high concentrations

Composition

- Sodium Chloride (NaCl): typically 95–98%
- Trace minerals: may include clay, sand, or other natural impurities

Control Measures

Risk	Control
Skin contact	Wear gloves (nitrile or PVC); wash hands after use
Eye contact	Use safety goggles if dust is present
Inhalation of dust	Use dust mask (FFP2 or equivalent) in enclosed or windy areas
Manual handling	Follow manual handling procedures; use trolleys or mechanical aids
Environmental contamination	Avoid overuse near watercourses or sensitive vegetation

First Aid Measures

- Skin contact:** Wash with soap and water
- Eye contact:** Rinse immediately with clean water for at least 15 minutes
- Inhalation:** Move to fresh air; seek medical attention if symptoms persist
- Ingestion:** Rinse mouth; seek medical advice if large quantities are consumed

Storage and Disposal

- Store in a dry, well-ventilated area away from moisture
- Keep containers sealed when not in use
- Dispose of excess salt responsibly; avoid drainage systems and natural water sources

Safety Data Sheet (SDS)

Ensure the full SDS for Rock Salt is available and reviewed annually. Suppliers may vary slightly in composition—always check the specific SDS provided with your delivery.