



# Checklist for Marking and Placarding of Cargo Transport Units (CTUs) and Bulk Containers with Dangerous Goods (IMDG Code Chapter 5.3, Amendment 42-24, 2024 Edition)

## Introduction

This checklist covers the requirements for placarding (enlarged labels) and marking of CTUs (e.g., freight containers, tanks, vehicles, bulk containers) carrying dangerous goods, based on Chapter 5.3 of the IMDG Code. This includes general provisions, specifications, and special marks. Always cross-reference with IMDG Code, as requirements may vary by hazard class, substance type, or special provisions. Ensure all placards, marks, and signs are durable, weather-resistant, and remain identifiable after at least three months' immersion in the sea. Remove or mask irrelevant placards/marks after discharge of goods or residues.

We have done our best to avoid mistakes. If you notice any errors or inconsistencies, please let us know, the official IMDG Code will take precedence.

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## 1. General Provisions

Requirement	Description	Yes	No	Not Applicable
<b>Visibility Check (5.3.1.1.1)</b>	Placards and marks affixed to exterior surfaces unless package labels/marks are clearly visible from outside the CTU.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Durability and Surface Consideration (5.3.1.1.2)</b>	Marking methods suitable for CTU surface to ensure longevity.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Removal/Masking (5.3.1.1.3)</b>	All placards, orange panels, marks, and signs removed or masked once dangerous goods or residues are discharged.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Primary Hazard Placarding (5.3.1.1.2) (5.3.1.1.2.1)</b>	Placard corresponds to the primary hazard of contents, except no placards for explosives of Division 1.4, Compatibility Group S (any quantity).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Multiple Divisions (Class 1) (5.3.1.1.2.2)</b>	For Class 1 with multiple divisions, placard only the highest hazard.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Subsidiary Hazards (5.3.1.1.3)</b>	Subsidiary hazard placards displayed if required by 5.2.2.1.2, unless covered by primary placard (for multi-class goods).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Class 9 Specifics</b>	Placard model No. 9 used (not 9A).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Background</b>	Placards on contrasting color background or with dotted/solid outer boundary line.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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## 2. Placarding Requirements by CTU Type

Requirement	Description	Yes	No	Not Applicable
<b>Freight Container, Semi-Trailer, Closed/Sheeted Bulk Container, or Portable Tank (&gt;3,000 L)</b>	One placard on each side and each end.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Portable Tank (≤3,000 L)</b>	Placard on all four sides/ends OR label on two opposite sides.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Railway Wagon</b>	At least one placard on each side.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Multiple-Compartment Tank</b>	Placards along each side at relevant compartment positions; if all compartments need same placards, display once per side.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Flexible Bulk Container</b>	At least in two opposing positions.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



<b>Other CTUs (e.g., Vehicles)</b>	At least on both sides and the back.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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### 3. Special Provisions for Class 7

Requirement	Description	Yes	No	Not Applicable
<b>Large Freight Containers or Tanks (5.3.1.1.5.1)</b>	For unpackaged LSA-I, SCO-I, SCO-III, or non-excepted packages: Four placards (model No. 7D) vertically on each side and end wall.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Remove Irrelevant Placards (5.3.1.1.5.1)</b>	Irrelevant placards removed.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Alternative Labels (5.3.1.1.5.1)</b>	Enlarged labels (models 7A, 7B, 7C) used with minimum size as per 5.3.1.2.2.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Rail and Road Vehicles (5.3.1.1.5.2)</b>	For packages, overpacks, or freight containers labeled with models 7A, 7B, 7C, 7E, or under exclusive use: Placard model No. 7D on rail (two external lateral walls) or road (two external lateral walls and rear wall).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Vehicles Without Sides</b>	Placards affixed directly on cargo-carrying unit if readily visible.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Large Tanks/Freight Containers (5.3.1.1.5.2)</b>	Placards on tanks/freight containers suffice.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Insufficient Area (5.3.1.1.5.2)</b>	Placard reduced to 100 mm dimensions if area insufficient.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Remove Irrelevant Placards (5.3.1.1.5.2)</b>	Irrelevant placards removed.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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### 4. Specifications for Placards

Requirement	Description	Yes	No	Not Applicable
<b>General Placard Design (5.3.1.2.1)</b>	Square at 45° (diamond-shaped), minimum 250 mm × 250 mm, inner line 12.5 mm inset, color/symbol matches label for class/division, digits ≥ 25 mm high.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Proportions</b>	All features approximate to those shown in IMDG figures.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### 5. Marking Requirements

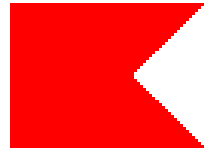
Requirement	Description	Yes	No	Not Applicable
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<b>Proper Shipping Name (PSN) Display (5.3.2.0) (5.3.2.0.2)</b>	PSN marked durably on at least both sides of <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. tank CTUs,</li> <li>2. bulk containers, or</li> <li>3. other CTUs with packaged dangerous goods of a single commodity for which no placard, UN number or marine pollutant mark is required. Characters <math>\geq 65</math> mm high, contrasting color (reducible to 12 mm for portable tanks <math>\leq 3,000</math> L).</li> </ol>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>UN Number Display (5.3.2.1)</b>	UN number displayed for <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. solids/liquids/gases in tank CTUs,</li> <li>2. packaged goods <math>&gt; 4,000</math> kg gross mass with single UN number,</li> <li>3. unpackaged LSA-I/SCO-I/SCO-III, packaged radioactive material under exclusive use, or</li> <li>4. solid dangerous goods in bulk containers; black digits <math>\geq 65</math> mm high.</li> </ol>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>UN Number Placement (5.3.2.1.2)</b>	Displayed on white background below symbol, above class number/compatibility letter, or on orange panel ( $\geq 120$ mm high $\times$ 300 mm wide, 10 mm black border) adjacent to placard/marine pollutant mark; for portable tanks $\leq 3,000$ L, reduce to $\geq 25$ mm high.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>No Placard/Marine Pollutant (5.3.2.0.1)</b>	UN number displayed adjacent to PSN if no placard/marine pollutant mark.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## 6. Elevated Temperature and Marine Pollutants

Requirement	Description	Yes	No	Not Applicable
<b>Elevated Temperature Substance Mark (5.3.2.2)</b>	For substances $\geq 100^{\circ}\text{C}$ (liquid) or $\geq 240^{\circ}\text{C}$ (solid): Equilateral triangle, red color, minimum side 250 mm (reducible to 100 mm for portable tanks $\leq 3,000$ L), affixed on each side and end.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Maximum Temperature Mark</b>	Maximum expected temperature marked on both sides of portable tank/insulation jacket ( $\geq 100$ mm high, adjacent to mark).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Marine Pollutant Mark (5.3.2.3)</b>	For marine pollutants (except per 2.10.2.7): Displayed per 5.3.1.1.4.1,	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



	design per 5.2.1.6.3, minimum 250 mm × 250 mm (reducible to 100 mm × 100 mm for portable tanks ≤3,000 L).			
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## 7. Dangerous Goods in Limited Quantities

Requirement	Description	Yes	No	Not Applicable
<b>Limited Quantities Mark (3.4.5.5)</b>	CTUs packed only with dangerous goods in limited quantities display the mark, readily visible, surviving three months' sea immersion, top/bottom/surrounding line black, center white/contrasting, minimum 250 mm × 250 mm, one mark on each side and end.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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## 8. Dangerous Goods in Excepted Quantities

Requirement	Description	Yes	No	Not Applicable
<b>Excepted Quantities (3.5)</b>	CTUs containing only dangerous goods in excepted quantities with no other dangerous goods do not display any mark or placard.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>