



Why Protect The Legs?



The majority of injuries in an introductory chemistry lab are below the waist. Typically, a test tube or beaker is accidentally dropped and the contents, as well as broken glass, flie across the room and strikes someone.

Even though the chemistry 101 class uses fairly dilute reagents, and the risk of injury is quite small; the risk of injury is not zero and we are establishing rules for future behavior.

It is universally accepted that the appropriate dress in student labs is to cover the legs. This is stated in the lab behavior document available on both Blackboard and the instructor's web site, the lab briefing slides and instructor comments, as well as the American Chemical Society safety video.

Students sign a pledge to abide by the laboratory rules.

Following the rules minimizes risk of injury



Let me point out:

Temperature outside is irrelevant to safety procedures in an indoor chemistry lab.

Playing a soccer game two hours after the lab session does not justify wearing shorts in the lab.

There are no “review” labs; every lab session involves students moving about the room.

So, please protect YOUR legs.

Bottom line: Skin you do not want burned or spilled upon should be covered.