

Highlighting innovative design features  
and useful application information for  
**Thermo Scientific General Labware**

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# smart notes

design and innovation ► plastic labware



# Q A

## How can plastic labware improve your lab safety program?

Plastic labware won't shatter like glass – it's less likely to cause injury or lose valuable contents in the event of breakage. Plastic labware is lighter weight and easier to handle than glass, making it more ergonomic. No chipping or sharp edges with plastic labware.

In a busy laboratory where bench space is often very limited, there is a level of unavoidable bumps and knocks occurring throughout the day that can involve benchtop labware pieces like beakers, cylinders, and reagent bottles. Glassware can be prone to chips or cracks, and can shatter upon impact. The fragility of glassware in the lab poses a daily risk of valuable solutions being lost or hazardous material being released, creating the potential for injury to personnel in busy laboratory environments.



# Plastic labware won't shatter like glassware

Plastic labware is much more impact resistant than glassware and able to absorb the shock of daily bumps and knocks. A plastic reagent bottle is more likely to bounce than break, and is likely to safely contain the liquid inside protecting nearby personnel and the lab environment from exposure as well as safeguarding valuable lab materials and preventing loss.

## Ergonomic Benefits of Plastic Labware

Due to its lighter weight, plastic labware is more ergonomic to handle and manipulate than glassware, helping to reduce repetitive motion injuries and muscle fatigue in the lab. Converting larger pieces of labware from glass to plastic can make a significant improvement to the comfort of daily lab routines. Desiccators, beakers, graduated cylinders and separatory funnels with volumes 1L and larger are some of the easiest and most beneficial to convert and reap the ergonomic benefits of plastic labware.

## Immediate Safety Program Benefits

Labware is an essential component of nearly all laboratory workflows. It is handled by almost everyone in the lab every day from the most seasoned researcher to the newest of students. By replacing glassware with plastic alternatives, the lab can become a safer place for everyone.

## Summary

Switching out glassware for Thermo Scientific™ Nalgene™ Plastic Labware is a simple way to make an immediate and measurable improvement to your lab safety program.



See the advantages to Thermo Scientific Nalgene Plastic Labware, go to: [www.thermoscientific.com/breaktheglass](http://www.thermoscientific.com/breaktheglass)

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