Reducing Exposure to Toxics in Personal Care Products

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What is a cosmetic?
What type of chemicals do cosmetics have?
What type of ingredients are listed in the label?
Is it safe to buy unlabeled or homemade cosmetics?
What government agency regulates cosmetics?
What type of safety test do cosmetics go through?
Are “natural” cosmetics safer?
Are more expensive products safer than cheap ones?
Are cosmetics from the US safer?
Who is more at risk of exposure to toxics in cosmetics?
Are cosmetics essential for a healthy life?
¿Y ahora quién podrá defendernos?
¡Para eso no cuenten con mi astucia!
You
Exposure Routes

Source of toxics

Contaminated media
- Air
- Water
- Soil

Exposure Route
- Breathing
- Drinking
- Eating
- Touching

Exposed Population

Health Effect
- Toxicity
- Frequency
- Amount
Important factors:

- Toxicity of the chemical
- Frequency of exposure
- Amount of chemical
✓ Use less toxic cosmetics
✓ Use them less often
✓ Use a smaller amount
What is the California Safe Cosmetics Program Public Database?

The California Safe Cosmetics Act (the Act) requires companies that manufacture cosmetics to report any cosmetics products that contain ingredients known or suspected to cause cancer, birth defects, or other reproductive harm. The California Safe Cosmetics Program (CSCP) collects this data and makes it available to the public through this website.

Are you curious to see what ingredients have been reported for your shampoo? Want to compare the ingredients of different sunscreens? You can search the database for a type of product; a specific product name; or a brand or company name.

You can also read more about chemical ingredients, learn about how chemical exposure can affect your health, test your knowledge of cosmetics, or learn more about the California Safe Cosmetics Program by clicking on links to the right.

More information on the California Safe Cosmetics Act and cosmetics in the news is also available.
Do you know what's in your kids' products?
Search below.

Search more than 78,000 products...

Smarter Choices, Healthier Living

Coming this Fall
SKIN DEEP MOBILE APP
Want to be the first to know when it launches?

EWG's Healthy Living Corner

Quick Tips for Safer Cosmetics
EWG's 2012 Guide to Healthy Cleaning

Featured Research & News

Exposing the Cosmetics Cover-up
Read more »

Why Skin Deep®?
Read more »

Essential Tips and Facts
See that long list of ingredients on the back of the bottle? Some probably aren't as safe as you'd hope.

1. Top tips for safer products
2. Frequently asked questions (FAQs)
3. Why Skin Deep®?
4. Myths on cosmetic safety
5. User's guide to Skin Deep®
Coming this Fall
Skin Deep Mobile App
Get critical information about your personal care products right at your fingertips!

Sign up today to be one of the first to know when EWG’s Skin Deep mobile app is launched.
Are you an avid Skin Deep fan? Your support keeps it going

Features

Scan Barcode
At the store? Use the Skin Deep Mobile app’s barcode scanner to see EWG’s score for the product you’re thinking of buying!

History
With the Skin Deep Mobile app’s history, you can find scores of products you’ve scanned before.
EXCITING ANNOUNCEMENT!
BREAST CANCER FUND IS OUR CHARITY PARTNER.

Think Dirty™ and San Francisco nonprofit Breast Cancer Fund announce an exclusive strategic alliance with the common goal of bringing transparency to ingredients in cosmetics and personal care products.

Check out the press release.
Is there a healthier option?

Can I use less of this product?

Can I use it less often?
What are healthier options?

- Au natural!
- Use safer and less toxic products
- Be creative!
What is the safest way to dispose of toxic cosmetics?
Smile!
Thank you!

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