

Potentially Harmful Ingredients Used In Cosmetics

WHAT?	WHERE?	WHY HARMFUL?
2-amino-4-hydroxyethylaminoanisoole sulphate	Hair colorant, hair dyes	Considered still safe in low concentrations
3-benzylidene-camphor	UV Filter, Sunscreen	Hormone disruptor
4-Amino-2-Hydroxytoluene	Hair dyes	Toxin that is used in hair dyes and is absorbed
4-Chlororesorcinol	Hair colorant, hair dyes	Toxin and allergen used in hair dyes
8-hydroxyquinoline sulfate/ Oxyquinoline Sulfate	Emulsion stabilizer, biocide, hair lightener	Determined safe for use in cosmetics, subject to concentration or usage limitations
Alkylphenol/propylphenol/nonylphenol	Detergents, household cleaners	Carcinogenic and hormone disrupting
Alpha isomethyl ionone	Fragrance component found in personal care products	Synthetic fragrance, association with eco-toxicity
Aluminum	Body products	Anti-perspirant that functions by blocking pores
Ammonia	Ingredient in fragrance	Damaging to aquatic life, damaging if inhaled, bio-accumulating
Benzalkonium chloride	Preservative, broad skin care use	Frequent use can lead to resistant bacteria, extreme irritant to skin and lungs
Benzophenone-1	Benzene based UV absorber, nail polish, sunscreens	Hormone disruptor
Benzophenone-4/Sulisobenzone	Sunscreens and personal care	Can cause skin and eye irritation, some association with hormone disruption
Bronopol/2-bromo-2-nitropropane-1, 3-diol /1,3-propanediol	Preservative, broad skin care use	Found to form formaldehyde in cosmetic products
Butyl Alcohol	Fragrance ingredient	Can be irritating to the skin and other organs

Butylated hydroxyanisole (BHA)	Antioxidant/ fragrance/ antibacterial, broad skin cares use.	Hormone disruptor, possible carcinogen
Ceteareth-6 Oliviate	Stabilizer, skin conditioner	May be contaminated with Ethylene oxide which is highly toxic
Ceteareth-60 / Myristyl Glycol	Emulsifier, broad skin care use	May be contaminated with Ethylene oxide which is highly toxic
Cocamide DEA/MEA	Stabilizer, broad skin care use	Irritant and allergen, subject to concentration restrictions in skincare
Cyclopentasiloxane	Type of silicone for lubricating, also found in hair care and body lotions	Associated with hormone disruption and bioaccumulation in the environment as well as the body
Diazolidinyl urea	Anti-microbial preservative, hair care and skin care, may be derived from animals	Found to form formaldehyde in cosmetic products
Dibutyl phthalate, Dibutyl Ester 1, 2	Fragrance, solvent, nail polish	Hormone disruptor, bio accumulating, toxic to the eco system
DMDM Hydantoin	Preservative, broad skin care use	Found to form formaldehyde in cosmetic products
Ethanolamine	PH adjuster, broad skin care use	Unsafe if left on skin, allergen, immune and respiratory toxin
Ethyl-hexyl p-methoxycinnamic acid/ Octal methoxycinnamate/Octinoxate	Chemical sunscreen (UV absorber)	Hormone disruptor, long-term effect in the environment
Ethylene Oxide	Used to make other chemicals	Known human carcinogen, is used to make other chemicals like PEGs and SLS
Fluoride	Oral care, toothpaste	Antagonizes iodine, can build up and impact negatively on bones and teeth
Formaldehyde (formalin)	Preservative, nail polish, hair dyes, and hair straighteners	Carcinogenic, strong skin allergen
Hydrogen Peroxide	Antimicrobial, hair dyes	Irritant and oxidant
Hydroquinone	Skin lightening agent	Banned and unsafe for use in cosmetics by the EU authority, strong toxin
Hydroxyisohexyl 3-cyclohexene carboxaldehyde / Lyrall	Fragrance component in personal care	Synthetic fragrance, association with allergies
Imidazolidinyl urea	Preservative in cosmetics, hair care May be derived from animals	Found to form formaldehyde in cosmetic products
Iodopropynyl, butylcarbamate	Preservative in cosmetics	Also used globally in water-based paint, primers and coolants

Isothiazolinones	Synthetic Preservative, broad skin care use	Frequently associated with allergic reactions
Liquid paraffin	Fragrance/conditioner, broad skin care use	Human allergen, hydrocarbons derived from petroleum
M-Aminophenol	Synthetic dye in hair dyes	Approved but restricted to low concentration
Mercury/Thimerosal	Preservative in cosmetics	Toxic heavy metals, shown to bio accumulate in the ecosystem
Methylchloroisothiazolinone	Preservative, broad skins care use	Human allergen, associated with eco toxicity
Methylisothiazolinone	Preservative, broad skins care use	Human allergen, neurotoxic, eco toxicity
Micro beads (Polyethylene (PE), polymethyl methacrylate (PMMA), nylon, polyethylene terephthalate (PET) and polypropylene (PP))	Exfoliate, face and body scrubs	Tiny pieces of plastic that aren't filtered from the waste water system Contribute to eco-toxicity
MSG 621	Flavor enhancer, in foods	Irritating to the nervous system in sensitive individuals
N-Phenyl-p-Phenylenediamine Sulfate	Hair dyes	Must only be used in low concentrations. May irritate skin
Oxybenzone / Benzophenone-3	UV Filter in sunscreens	Hormone disruption, human allergen
P-phenylenediamine	Hair dyes	Associated with allergic reactions
PABA (4-aminobenzoic acid) (in skin care only)	UV absorber in sunscreen	External use can cause allergic dermatitis and photosensitivity
Parabens - isopropyl, butyl, isobutyl, ethyl, methyl, propyl	Preservative, hair & body products	Associated with hormone disruption
Petroleum jelly	Barrier	Derivative of oil refining, an unsustainable resource
Phthalate	Plasticizer, personal care products	Chemical compound used in the manufacture of plastics, solvents, and personal care products, hormone disruptors
Phthalate containing Fragrances, Dibutyl phthalate, Dibutyl Ester 1,2-	Fragrance, broad skin care use	As above...hormone disruptors
Polyacrylamide	Anti-static, creams	Made of acrylamide, an irritant, and toxic to the eco system

PEGs (Polyethylene Glycol group)	Emulsifier, cleansing agent, penetration enhancer, humectant, conditioner, broad skin care use	Unstable ingredients starting to break down within 12 months of manufacture, PEG's are products of condensed ethylene oxide and water that have various derivatives (highly toxic)
Potassium per sulfate	Oxidizing agent, hair dyes	Irritant and allergen
Propylene glycol	Conditioning agent, mineral oil, conditioners, moisturizers, cosmetics	Irritant to skin, derived from petroleum
Quaternium-15	Preservative in shampoos, cleansers, anti-aging skincare	Found to form formaldehyde in cosmetic products
Retinyl palmitate, (Vitamin A Palmitate) (in skin care only)	Skin conditioner, anti-aging skincare	External use, this ingredient can increase skin lesions, especially in the presence of sunlight
Sodium Hydroxymethylglycinate	Antimicrobial, broad skin care use	Found to form formaldehyde in cosmetic products
Sodium lauryl sulfate (SLS)/ Sodium laureth sulfate / Coco lauryl sulfate	Cleansing agent, broad skin care use	Irritating to the skin, hormone disrupting, may be contaminated with dioxin
Stearalkonium chloride - petroleum sourced	Preservative, conditioners	Strong irritant and allergen
Toluene	Solvent, used in nail polish	Very irritating, persisting and accumulating in the body and eco-system, may cause developmental problems in the unborn child
Triclocarban	Deodorant agent, antimicrobial, solid soap, banned by FDA 2016	Found to be harmful to the environment, associated with hormone disruption
Triclosan	Antibacterial, liquid soap, Toothpaste	Found to be irritating to eyes, skin, and lungs, studies show hormone disruption
Triethanolamine (TEA)	Emulsifier, cosmetics & hair care	Irritant and allergen, subject to concentration restrictions in skincare
Trisodium NTA	Chelating agent, cleansers	Found to be irritating to eyes, skin, and lungs