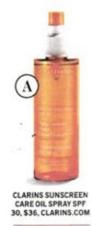


PRACTICE SAFE SUN



Q Is it safe to use spray sunscreen?

Sprays are convenient, especially for toughto-reach areas. The issue is inhalation. Some ingredients may be lung irritants that could cause flare-ups of conditions like asthma. They're best used on adults (children are often squirmy, unwilling targets) and, Dr. Chapas cautions, never on your face. Make sure that skin glistens before you rub it in, and spritz two full coats every time you apply or reapply.

## Q Which sunscreens won't make me break out?

"Acne is often caused by the inactive ingredients, like preservatives and oils," says Dr. Chapas. To keep zits from ruining your summer, look for oil-free or noncomedogenic on the label. You could also seek out products with octisalate (also called octyl salicylate), a form of salicylic acid, a wellknown acne-fighting ingredient that filters UVB rays too.

## Q Is my beach umbrella doing anything?

That depends. Are you underneath it? Just kidding. An umbrella ensures you have a source of shade on demand, says Elizabeth Hale, MD, a clinical associate professor of dermatology at New York University Langone Medical Center. But the quality of the umbrella matters. Pick one that's opaque, UPF-rated (see Decode Your Label, below), and large enough to shade your entire body. Adds Dr. Nazarian, "Even if you sit under it all day, reapply sunscreen every two hours. UV rays can reach you indirectly by bouncing off sand, concrete, and water." While indirect light is less intense, radiation is radiation.

## Q Why does my nose always burn first?

For starters, it sticks out. Protruding areas Approximate
percentage rise in
radiation for every 1,000
feet of altitude. The higher
up you are, the quicker skin
burns. When in the mountains,
be extra fasticlious with sunscreen, opting for at least
SPF 50, and reapplying
more frequently than
directed.

LORENZO MAZZEGA/THELICENSINGPROJECT.COM... WESTBROOK/STUDIO D.

get a raw deal because the sun usually hits them first. And noses are generally oilier, so the sunscreen can wear off there sooner, says Dr. Chapas. Other areas that need extra TLC: your hands, feet, ears, lips, and scalp.

DECODE YOUR LABEL: SPF Sun Protection Factor. A measure of how much solar energy is required to produce a sunburn. It speaks only to protection from UVB rays. / UVB Shortwave rays from the sun. If you get a sunburn, these are the primary culprit. The most significant amount of UVB hits the U.S. between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., April to October. / UVA Longwave rays from the sun. They are the main cause of photoaging and also contribute to skin cancer. / BROAD SPECTRUM Sunscreen designed to protect against both UVB and UVA rays. Editor's pick: La Roche-Posay Anthelios 60 Melt-In Milk (\$36, ulta.com). / UPF Ultraviolet Protection Factor. A