EWG’s Skin Deep Cosmetics Database

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This site is packed with important health information about the cosmetics you – and your family – use every day. You’ll find product and ingredient safety ratings, health information about cosmetics ingredients and smart shopping tips you can trust.

Here’s how to use the database to find out exactly what you want to know:

Want to find out if your products are safe?

- **Look up a product.** Enter its name in the white search window.
- **Look up an ingredient.** If you want to know if a particular ingredient is safe or if you’re allergic or want to avoid it for other reasons, the database contains information about possible health concerns, which products contain it, other names – and a whole lot more.
- **Search by company.** Want to know how a certain company stacks up? Search its name to see how its products rate.
- **Find safer alternatives.** Pick a category (toothpaste? shampoo? mascara?) and peruse product ratings. Warning: goods in some categories, like hair relaxers, have uniformly high hazard scores.

Understanding the ratings.

For every product and ingredient in Skin Deep, there’s a two-part score – a hazard score and a data availability score.

The ingredient hazard score, from 1-10 reflects known and suspected hazards of ingredients.

		
Low hazard	Moderate hazard	High hazard

The data availability rating reflects the number of scientific studies in the published scientific literature and the number included in the Skin Deep database.

Data: None	}	Data availability rating: the scope of ingredient safety data contained in Skin Deep, and the number of studies available in the open scientific literature
Data: Limited		
Data: Fair		
Data: Good		
Data: Robust		

To calculate a product score, we tally the hazards of individual ingredients and evaluate each product in relation to the rest of the products in the Skin Deep database. The safest products score well by both measures: a low hazard rating AND fair or better data availability.

What do you mean by "data availability"?

The "data availability" rating measures how much is known about an ingredient. Not all ingredients are equal when it comes to safety data. Some have been studied extensively. For others, there is only a modest volume of research. Some have not been tested at all.



Data: None
A product's low score on the hazard scale doesn't mean much if scientists know very little about the chemicals in it. Your best bet? A doubly good score: low hazard rating + high data availability.

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Want some simple tips to shop smart?

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