



Are Your Cosmetics Safe?



1. Name two ways cosmetics get absorbed into our bodies.

2. What is formaldehyde and why is it harmful to humans?

3. What kinds of products contain toluene?

4. Where can you learn more about safe cosmetics?

5. How many chemicals are banned from cosmetics in the USA? How many are banned in the European Union?

6. What can you do to protect yourself and your community from dangerous cosmetics?



Are Your Cosmetics Safe?



Answers:

1. Name two ways cosmetics get absorbed into our bodies.

(through the skin, breathed in, swallowed)

2. What is formaldehyde and why is it harmful to humans?

(It's a preservative and disinfectant. It damages DNA and may cause cancer.)

3. What kinds of products contain toluene?

(paint thinner, industrial adhesives, nail polishes, hair dyes)

4. Where can you learn more about safe cosmetics?

(online at <http://www.safecosmetics.org>, <http://www.ewg.org/skindeep/>)

5. How many chemicals are banned from cosmetics in the USA? How many are banned in the European Union?

(USA=9, EU=over 1,000)

6. What can you do to protect yourself and your community from dangerous cosmetics?

(educate peers and family, contact cosmetic companies directly, write a letter to local government)