

ANIMAL AND ANIMAL-TESTED PRODUCTS

BioCé has strict ethical standards against animal cruelty. We don't use any animal-based ingredients, test on animals, or ask anyone else to do animal testing on our behalf.

BENZENE

Still used in some cosmetics as a solvent, benzene is flammable, petroleum-derived, and known to be carcinogenic (cancer-causing). What's more, it's produced from the combustion of fossil fuels, so it has negative environmental effects as well.

COMEDOGENICS

These refer to any ingredient that can clog pores and lead to acne, one sign of unhealthy skin.

FORMALDEHYDE-RELEASING INGREDIENTS

Known to cause cancer, formaldehyde also causes allergic reactions and irritation on contact, as well as headaches and chronic fatigue. Its vapor is extremely irritating to the eyes, nose and throat.

FRAGRANCE

Beyond the simple explanation—some people are allergic to certain fragrances—there are more complex reasons we avoid this. "Fragrance" can mean up to 4,000 separate ingredients, many of them toxic. The FDA and clinical studies have uncovered wide-ranging symptoms, from severe allergic reactions to depression.

IRRITANTS

When your skin is irritated, it's more vulnerable to the things that damage its DNA and collagen. That, in turn, leads to rough skin, acne, loss of elasticity, fine lines, and wrinkles.

NANO-PARTICLES

Your skin is meant to act as a barrier against unwelcome substances, but these microscopic particles can penetrate deeply into the skin—getting into cells, tissues, and your bloodstream. While the effects of nano-particles themselves aren't fully known, they could carry harmful substances with them into your body.

NITROSATING INGREDIENTS

Nitrosamines are chemical compounds formed under certain conditions—high acidity or heat, for instance—that have been found to cause cancer and mutations in lab animals. We avoid any ingredient that could lead to nitrosamines in your system.

PABA

PABA is a compound formed by intestinal bacteria. Recent studies have linked it to certain cellular defects in humans, which damage DNA and increase the risk of skin cancer.

PARABENS

These are still the most widely used preservatives in cosmetic and skin care products, even though they're known to disrupt hormone function, which has been linked to an increased risk of breast cancer and other types of toxicity.

PEGs (POLYETHYLENE GLYCOLS)

Used as emollients or emulsifiers—sometimes even in "natural" skin care—there's evidence that these contain toxic contaminants like heavy metals (i.e. lead, nickel, arsenic) and ethylene oxide, which studies suggest may increase the risk of uterine, breast and brain cancers.

PETROLATUM / MINERAL OIL

Mineral oil may sound harmless—baby oil, for instance, is 100% mineral oil—but it's actually a petroleum byproduct that coats the skin like plastic, clogging your pores. That leads to acne, interferes with your skin's ability to get rid of toxins, and slows down skin cell development, so your skin ages prematurely.

PHTHALATES

These are industrial chemicals known as "plasticizers," and you'll find them nearly everywhere in daily life—from toys, to food packaging, to shower curtains and shampoos. Yet they've been found to disrupt the endocrine system, damage men's reproductive systems, and even lead to liver cancer.

**SODIUM LAURYL/
LAURETH SULFATE**

This is a common comedogenic (pore-clogger) that can also cause skin and eye irritation. Worse, when applied to skin, it can be absorbed and cause health problems from menopausal symptoms, to lower male fertility, to breast and other female cancers.

TOLUENE

This is a solvent derived from benzene (see above), that's equally risky to your skin and overall health. If it's swallowed, inhaled or comes into contact with eyes, its symptoms can range from severe irritation or numbness to liver, kidney and central nervous system damage.

For more of the BioCé story, visit www.bioceyourlife.com.

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The Trump Network 428 Newburyport Turnpike, Rowley, MA 01969