



FRAGRANCE

What is Fragrance?

Fragrance is a generic term used on product labels. Federal law allows for fragrances to be listed as an ingredient of personal care products without disclosure of the exact substances contained.

Where is Fragrance Found?

Fragrance can be found in most personal care and cosmetic products such as sunscreen, shampoo, soap, body wash, deodorant, body lotion, makeup, facial cream, skin toner, serums, exfoliating scrubs and perfume.

For a safer option, look for products that do not include this chemical. Read product labels for these toxic ingredients: *fragrance*

Look for products that are labeled as “fragrance-free.” Natural products do not always mean “safer” products. Chemicals in natural fragrances can also have harmful effects. For example, it is important to avoid the use of tea tree and lavender oils on young boys as endocrine active compounds in these oils can cause breast tissue growth.

Why is Fragrance Concerning?

The **International Fragrance Association (IFRA)** lists over 3,000 chemicals that are reportedly being used in fragrance compounds. A recent study conducted by **Breast Cancer Prevention Partners** found that fragrance substances used in cosmetic and personal care products may include chemicals that have been linked with cancers, reproductive toxicity and endocrine disruption.

Where can I find more information about Fragrance?

To learn more about this hazardous chemical, please visit the following organization’s websites and resources:

Scientific Government Resources:

- [Environmental Protection Agency \(EPA\): Safer Choice Criteria for Fragrances](#)

Consumer Support Information:

- [International Fragrance Association: About the IFRA Transparency List](#)
- [Campaign for Safe Cosmetics: Fragrance](#)
- [Breast Cancer Prevention Partner’s: Right to Know: Exposing Fragrance Chemicals](#)