Household Products

URL of this page: http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/householdproducts.html

You'd like to think your home is a safe place. Yet most people's homes are filled with potentially dangerous substances. These include oven and drain cleaners, laundry powder, floor polish, paint and pesticides. Even arts and crafts supplies and yard care products can be hazardous.

Many household products can harm children, pets and the environment if not used and stored correctly. Toxic substances in these products can cause harm if inhaled, swallowed or absorbed through the skin. People respond to toxic substances in different ways. At high doses a toxic substance might cause birth defects or other serious problems, including brain damage or death.

To avoid problems, keep products in the containers they come in and use them exactly as the label says. Seek medical help if you swallow, inhale or get products on your skin.

Start Here
  Also available in Spanish [http://toxymystery.nlm.nih.gov/espanol.html]

Overviews
- 10+ Questions about Household Products [http://www.epa.gov/kidshometour/questions.htm] (Environmental Protection Agency)

Latest News

Diagnosis/Symptoms
- Poisoning: First Aid [http://www.mayoclinic.com/print/first-aid-poisoning/FA00029/METHOD=print] (Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research)

Treatment

Prevention/Screening
- Green Building - Kitchen [http://www.epa.gov/greenhomes/Kitchen.htm] (Environmental Protection Agency)
- Green Homes - Protecting Your Health [http://www.epa.gov/greenhomes/protectingyourhealth.htm] (Environmental Protection Agency)
Veterinary Medical Association) - PDF

- Read the Label First! Protect Your Garden [http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/regulating/labels/pdf/garden.pdf] (Environmental Protection Agency) - PDF
- Read the Label First! Protect Your Household [http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/regulating/labels/pdf/home.pdf] (Environmental Protection Agency) - PDF
- Read the Label First! Protect Your Pet [http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/regulating/labels/pdf/pets.pdf] (Environmental Protection Agency) - PDF
- Sure, Your Home Is Clean... but Is It Safe for Your Family? [http://www.epa.gov/osw/conservematerials/pubs/hhw-safe.htm] (Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Solid Waste)

Related Issues
- Chemical Emergency [http://www.redcross.org/prepare/disaster/chemical-emergency] (American Red Cross)
  Also available in Spanish [http://toxtown.nlm.nih.gov/espanol/]

Journal Articles
References and abstracts from MEDLINE/PubMed (National Library of Medicine)

Directories
- Poison Control Centers [http://www.aapcc.org/centers/] (American Association of Poison Control Centers)

Organizations
- American Association of Poison Control Centers [http://www.aapcc.org/]
- Environmental Protection Agency [http://www.epa.gov/]
- National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences [http://www.niehs.nih.gov] NIH

Statistics
Children
- Learn about Chemicals Around Your House [Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Pesticide Programs]
- Ten Tips to Protect Children from Pesticide and Lead Poisonings [Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Pesticide Programs] Also available in Spanish [NIH (National Library of Medicine) Also available in Spanish]
- ToxMystery [ToxMystery.nlm.nih.gov]

Women
- Can I Use Paint and Household Chemicals While Pregnant? [Nemours Foundation]

You may also be interested in these related encyclopedia pages:
- Acetone poisoning [Acetone poisoning]
- Ammonia poisoning [Ammonia poisoning]
- Copper poisoning [Copper poisoning]
- Detergent poisoning [Detergent poisoning]
- Drain cleaner poisoning [Drain cleaner poisoning]
- Drain opening agents [Drain opening agents]
- Gasoline poisoning [Gasoline poisoning]
- Kerosene [Kerosene]
- Lighter fluid poisoning [Lighter fluid poisoning]
- Oven cleaners [Oven cleaners]
- Toilet bowl cleaners and deodorizers poisoning [Toilet bowl cleaners and deodorizers poisoning]

You may also be interested in these related MedlinePlus topics:
- Child Safety [Child Safety]
- Cosmetics [Cosmetics]
- Indoor Air Pollution [Indoor Air Pollution]
- Pesticides [Pesticides]
- Poisoning [Poisoning]
- Poisoning, Toxicology, Environmental Health [Poisoning, Toxicology, Environmental Health]
- Safety Issues [Safety Issues]

The primary NIH organization for research on Household Products is the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences [NIEHS]

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