

Low Toxicity Substances



The National Poisons Information Service (NPIS) is a network of dedicated units commissioned by the Health Protection Agency through its Chemical Hazards and Poisons Division. The NPIS provides information on the diagnosis and management of poisoning to health professionals in the UK.

PRODUCED BY
Health Protection Agency
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Low Toxicity Substances

Plants

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|---|--|
| African violet (<i>Saintpaulia ionantha</i>) | Jasmine |
| Begonia | Marigold (<i>Calendula officinalis</i>) |
| Cacti | Nasturtium (<i>Tropaeolum majus</i>) |
| Carnation (<i>Dianthus</i>) | Pansy (<i>Viola tricolor</i>) |
| Christmas cactus (<i>Schlumbergera bridgesii</i>) | Petunia |
| Cotoneaster | Primrose (<i>Primula vulgaris</i>) |
| Dandelion (<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>) | Rose (<i>Rosa species</i>) |
| Daisy (<i>Bellis perennis</i>) | Rowan (<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>) |
| Fuchsia | Snapdragon (<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>) |
| Geranium (<i>Pelargonium species</i>) | Spider plant (<i>Chlorophytum comosum</i>) |
| Hawthorn (<i>Crateagus monogyna</i>) | Star Gazer Lily (<i>Lilium speciosum</i>) |
| Holly (<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>) | Violet (<i>Viola tricolor</i>) |
| Honeysuckle (<i>Lonicera species</i>) | |



Animal and Plant Food

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| Bird seed | House plant food (e.g. Phostrogen® and Baby Bio®) |
| Cat and dog food | |
| Cut flower food | |
| Fish food | |



Pharmaceuticals

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|--|----------------------------------|
| Antacids (e.g. Rennie®) | Kaolin |
| Aqueous cream | Nappy rash cream |
| Calamine lotion | Oral contraceptive pill |
| Emollients (e.g. Diprobase®, E45 Cream and Epaderm®) | Petroleum jelly (e.g. Vaseline®) |
| Evening primrose oil | Prednisolone |
| Folic acid | Pyridoxine |
| Guaifenesin cough preparations | Sudocrem |
| Hormone replacement therapy (HRT) | Thiamine |
| Hydrocortisone cream | Vitamin C |
| | Witch hazel |



In the Garden

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| Compost | Grass |
| Dog and cat faeces (less than 2 weeks old) | Slugs |
| Earth | Snails |
| | Worms |



Cosmetics and Toiletries

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| Baby wipes | Shower gel* |
| Bubble bath* | Solid cosmetics (e.g. lipstick, ChapStick® and foundation) |
| Deodorant, non-aerosol | Solid soap* |
| Hair conditioner/shampoo* (not insecticidal or medicated) | Suntan lotion and cream |
| Liquid soap* | Toothpaste |
| Nail glue | |

Substances marked * may produce foam if ingested in large amounts. There is a small risk of aspiration into the lungs if vomiting occurs.



Cleaning Products

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| Air freshener, non-aerosol (including plug-in) | Fabric washing powder, liquid and tablets* |
| Carpet cleaner* | General household cleaning liquid |
| Fabric conditioner, not concentrated (less than 10% cationic surfactants)* | Washing up liquid* (not machine dishwasher products) |

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Paper/Pens and Related Items

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| Ball point pen ink | Felt tip pen ink |
| Blu Tack® and similar preparations | Gel pen ink |
| Chalk | Glue (water based or PVA) |
| Children's paints (including face, powder and poster) | Newspaper |
| Crayons (wax) | Pencil lead (graphite) |
| Crepe paper | Silver paper/foil |
| | Sweet wrappers |



Miscellaneous

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| Artificial sweeteners | Plasticine® |
| Bubble liquid* | Polystyrene |
| Coal and artificial coal | Silica gel (desiccant sachet) |
| Luminous glowsticks/necklaces | |

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IF INGESTED: These substances are considered to be of low toxicity when ingested acutely. They may cause oral irritation and mild gastrointestinal upset but other features are unlikely.

WHAT TO DO: A small glass of water (or milk or juice) may be given if there is mild gastrointestinal upset.

Medical professionals should consult TOXBASE if considerable quantities are ingested or persisting or worrying symptoms are present (www.toxbase.org) or contact the NPIS (0844 892 0111).