



Healthy Homes, Healthy People Hazardous Household Cleaning Products

Just because household cleaners are easily purchased off the shelf doesn't mean they're safe! Many of the ingredients have the potential to harm you, your family and the environment.

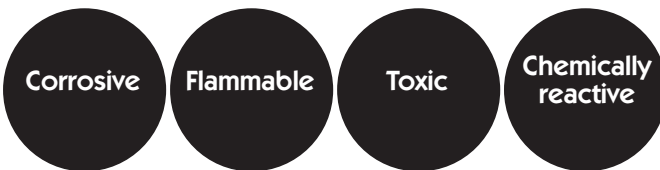
Common hazardous cleaning products:

- All-purpose and specific cleaners
- Air fresheners
- Polishes
- Disinfectants



How can cleaners be harmful?

Many Cleaners Have Chemicals That Are:



There are over 75,000 chemicals approved for commercial use.

- Few of these chemicals existed 75 years ago.
- Many of these chemicals are carcinogens or can harm your reproductive system,
- At least 150 chemicals found in your home can hurt your organs, eyes and brain and can even lead to cancer, birth defects, allergies, other health problems and death.
- Many cleaners have NOT been tested for health effects long term.
- Chemicals end up in our environment. This hurts our water supply, animals and plants.

What Does That Mean?

Corrosive

Can burn or destroy your skin and other materials around you.

Flammable or combustible

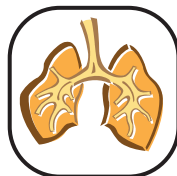
Can easily be set on fire.

Toxic

Can hurt you if you breathe it in, eat it, drink it, get it in your eyes or rub it on your skin. You can die.

Explosive or chemically-reactive

Can explode if it comes in contact with heat, pressure, sudden shock or some other chemicals.



Be a savvy “green” consumer.

You can make a difference! Become a consumer of less toxic products. Here’s how:

Read labels.

Reduce use of toxic products.

Choose less toxic alternatives.

Don’t get enticed by sales. It doesn’t “pay.”



Avoid products using the following words on their label. They are hazardous.

Sanitizers

Can cause allergic reactions or chronic adverse effects.



Caution!



Hazardous chemicals are present.

Warning!

Hazardous chemicals are present.

Poison

The product is highly toxic.

Danger!

Ingredients present are extremely corrosive, extremely flammable or highly toxic.

To find out how you can go “green,” refer to our *Clean and Green* publication.