

The Chemistry of Cosmetics: Game Definitions

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Word	What is it used for?	Longer Definition
Fatty Acid	Some fatty acids are found in lip balm	A type of acid that can be found in beeswax. Today we are using beeswax in our lip balm
Coal Tar	An ingredient that was used in hair dye	In the 1800's coal tar was used in hair dye. It is not used often anymore because it is linked to cancer and is a cause for other health concerns as well
Esters	Used to add different smells to cosmetics	Esters are chemicals that can have many different smells. Some esters smell like mint, grape, pineapple, pear, banana, oranges, and apricot. Many are naturally occurring
Boric Acid	Helps blend together oil and water in bath fizzies	Another name for boric acid is Borax. It is an emulsifier which means it helps blend two or more unbendable liquids (like oil and water)
Witch Hazel	Makes things clean and fresh	The extract of the plant called Witch Hazel has antioxidant properties. Can be used as a cleanser, deodorant, in shampoo, etc
Redox	A type of reaction	A chemical reaction where molecules, atoms or ions gain or lose electrons
Red Ocher	Used in ancient Egypt to color beauty products	A pigment made from naturally tinted clay (iron oxide)
Comedogenic	Clogs pores and can cause pimples	
French Chalk	Adds volume to a cosmetic product	French chalk is a bulking agent. Bulking agents increase volume but are non-reacting
Wool Wax	Used in skin cream	An extract from sheep's wool that has many different uses in cosmetic products. Many anti-ageing creams use this ingredient. It has a soothing effect on skin
Jojoba oil	An ingredient in lip balm	It is the liquid wax produced in the seed of the jojoba plant
Mica Flake	Adds color to make-up	Comes from a shiny type of rock called mica. When used in makeup it gives a translucent shiny look.