

TERMS GLOSSARY

Acid: Anything with a pH lower than 7.0 is acid and above 7.0 is alkaline. Water has a pH of 7. Skin has a pH of 4.5-6.0 with an average pH of 5.5.

Acne: A skin disease involving the oil glands at the base of hair follicles. This is where sebum is produced. When glands produce too much oil the pores can become blocked. The resulting bacteria in the plug causes swelling and the blockage causes blemishes.

Allergic reaction: Characterized by itching, redness and swelling usually localized to the site of contact.

Aloe: A succulent, which means 'juicy.' A succulent plant is one that stores water in its tissues.

Alphahydroxy Acid: Natural fruit, milk and sugar acids. Used for surface skin exfoliation. Work by removing the adhesions between cells in the upper layer, epidermis, allowing the epidermal cells to slough off.

Amino acids: Cells, muscles and tissue are made up of amino acids, which carry out many bodily functions such as giving cells structure. Also play a role in the transport and storage of nutrients.

Analgesic: provides temporary relief from pain.

Antioxidant: Natural substances that help prevent or delay some types of cell damage. Found in many foods, including fruits and vegetables. Many vitamins have antioxidant properties such as Vitamin A, C and E.

Astringent: Compound that tends to shrink or constrict body tissues.

Bioflavonoids: Antioxidants. Support cell formation. Found in foods high in Vitamin C, such as citrus fruits and many vegetables.

Blackheads: A plugged pore that is opened at the skin's surface. It gets its dark color from both melanin and oxidation (not from dirt).

Botanicals: Plant derived ingredients are added to products for their unique, individual healing and rejuvenating properties.

Chelator: Binds ingredients together.

Collagen: Protein made up of amino acids. Collagen makes up approximately 30% of the proteins in the body and decreases with age. Supports body tissues and gives skin elasticity.

Comedone: Forms when dead skin cells are trapped and compacted by oil to clog pores. An open comedone is a “blackhead” and a closed comedone is a “whitehead.”

Constituent: A part of the whole or one component part of something, such as a formula.

Cystic Acne: This severe, potentially scarring form of acne develops when a plug of dead skin cells, sebum, and P. Acnes bacteria lodges deep inside a pore, creating a tender, pus-filled bump that sometimes ruptures the pore wall, spreading to surrounding tissue.

Dermis: Layer of the skin that nourishes and supports the epidermis, giving the epidermis its elasticity and strength.

Eczema: Non-contagious condition often referred to as atopic dermatitis. Rash is different for each person. May be inflamed, red dry and itchy. Affected areas usually appear dry, thickened or scaly.

Elastin: Main structural protein in our skin that provides our skin with elasticity, the ability to stretch and recoil, keeping its shape.

Emulsifier: Keeps the oil and water parts of an emulsion from separating, and it enhances the properties of primary cleansing and moisturizing agents contained in a product.

Emollient: Helps to maintain smooth soft pliable appearance of the skin and reduce dryness, roughness and irritation.

Epidermis: Skin’s outer layer, which is 8-10 cell layers in thickness and naturally renews itself. Renewal process decreases with age.

Essence: Extract obtained from plants and botanicals that is used for natural scent.

Essential Fatty Acids: Omega-6 fatty acids derived from linoleic acid found in leafy vegetables, seeds, nuts, grains, and vegetable oils such as soybean and sunflower. Omega -3 fatty acids also derived from linoleic acid. Found in vegetables, beans, nuts, seeds, and fruits.

Essential Oils: Oil obtained from plants. Usually has the taste and smell of the original plant.

Ester: Used in skin care and cosmetics to help products spread easily and more readily penetrate into the skin.

Exfoliation: The process by which scrubs or peels increase the regular removal of dead skin cells from the epidermis revealing fresher skin.

Fragrance: A blend of essential oils or extracts added to a product to deliver an aroma.

Free Radicals: free radicals are unstable molecules that damage collagen and cause skin dryness, fine lines and wrinkles. Your body can also be exposed to free radicals from a variety of environmental sources, such as cigarette smoke, air pollution, and sunlight. Free radicals can cause “oxidative stress,” a process that can trigger cell damage.

Heredity: The passing on of physical or mental characteristics genetically from one generation to another.

Humectant: Used to help retain moisture. Can be both hygroscopic (absorb humidity from the air) and hydrophilic (ability to attract water or moisture to the skin).

Hyperpigmentation: Increased abnormal melanin pigmentation (color) in the skin. Freckles and age spots are examples.

Hypopigmentation: Decreased melanin pigmentation (color) in the skin causing light patches.

Inflammation: A localized physical condition in which part of the body becomes reddened, swollen, hot and often painful; especially as a reaction to an injury or infection.

Inorganic compound: Any compounds that do not contain carbon atoms. Water, oxygen, nitrogen, carbon dioxide, electrolytes are examples of inorganic compounds.

Isopropyl Myristate: Compound of Isopropanol and Myristate acid, a naturally occurring fatty acid. Give the skin a soft, velvety feel.

Keratin: Hair is composed almost entirely of keratin; a tough, fibrous protein that also makes up your nails and top layer of skin.

Lipophilic: tending to combine with or dissolve in lipids or fats.

Melanin: Color granules found in melanocytes (pigment-producing skin cells), which produce the general color of our skin and glands.

Melanoma: The deadliest of all skin cancers, it develops in pigment-producing cells, most commonly on the upper back, trunk, head, neck, and lower legs. While the cure rate is high when caught early, unchecked cases can spread to internal organs. Malignant moles tend to have asymmetrical or irregular borders, uneven color, a diameter greater than six millimeters, and/or a rapidly changing appearance. While genetics and immune disorders increase risk, a history of sun- or tanning-bed exposure is the most preventable cause.

Milia: Dead skin cells (keratin) trapped beneath the surface of the skin, forming small hard cysts.

Nodules: Large, solid pimples that are deep in the skin and may be painful.

Opacifier: A substance added to make the formula opaque.

ORAC: Oxygen Radical Absorbency Capacity. This is a score derived from analysis of any given ingredient and reflects the level of antioxidants in that ingredient.

Organic compound: Compounds associated with life processes (contain carbon atoms). Four major categories are found in all living things: carbohydrates, lipids, proteins, and nucleic acids.

Papules: Small pink bumps that can be tender.

Peptides: Have the same chemical structure as proteins, but are shorter in length. Made up of amino acids. They are active molecules that send signals to your cells. When applied regularly, helps skin become smoother, more evenly toned and diminishes lines and wrinkles.

Polymer-Natural polymers include polysaccharides and cellulose. Found in the human body in the form of proteins, nucleic acids and the energy source glycogen.

Pores: Passageway from the surface of the skin to the base of a hair follicle.

Phenethyl alcohol: Aromatic alcohol that occurs widely in nature. Found in a variety of essential oils such as rose, carnation and hyacinth.

Phytochemicals: Chemicals that occur naturally in plants.

Phytonutrients-A substance found in certain plants which is believed to be beneficial to human health and help prevent various diseases.

Plant stem cells: Innately undifferentiated (not having any distinguishing features) cells located in the meristems of a plant (zones where growth can take place). Can regenerate tissues, helping to decrease wrinkles and slow the development of new lines.

Preservative: Used for broad-spectrum protection. Natural preservatives may need to be paired with a laboratory formulated preservative for maximum efficacy and safety.

Psoriasis: Non-contagious skin condition characterized by thick, red and scaly dry skin with white plaques.

Pustules: Pimples that are red at the bottom and have pus on top.

Rosacea: Exact cause is unknown. May be caused by blood vessels expanding too easily, bacteria, genetics, or sun exposure. Characterized by facial redness, pustules, and red, rough look to the skin. May be triggered by many factors, including sunlight, alcohol, stress, hot spicy foods and extremes of water and air temperature.

Surfactant: Mildly cleanses the skin/hair by helping water to mix with oil and dirt so that they can be rinsed off. Have mild foaming action.

Sebaceous glands: Oil producing glands attached to hair follicles.

Sebum: Body's natural oil, composed of fatty acids and wax, that is released by sebaceous glands and travels up the pore to reach and coat the surface of the skin.

Stabilizer: Substance used to adjust the physical properties of a product. Also keeps ingredients within a formulation from separating. Used mainly for consistency.

SPF: Sun protection factor on a sunscreen that refers to a products effectiveness to guard against UVB exposure.

Subcutaneous: Inner fat layer of the tissue.

UVA light: Long wavelength of ultraviolet light that affects both the epidermis and dermis. UVA causes skin tanning, but also the concern of spot formation and skin wrinkling. UVA rays may play an important role in the development of melanoma.

UVB light: UVB is a shorter wavelength of ultraviolet light that affects primarily the epidermis and manifests as sunburn.

Vitamin: Used as colorant and/or natural preservative. Vitamins offer benefits to the skin, including suppression of pigmentation and bruising, antioxidant and anti-inflammatory effects.

Xanthones (Xanthonoids)-From the pericarp, whole fruits, heartwood, and leaf of mangosteen fruit. Antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, anti-bacterial, anti-fungal and anti-viral activities.