

# High Risk Cleaning Products

## Be Healthy – Clean Safely #2

By Tom Barron

### What cleaning chemicals are the most risk to you?

<u>Product</u>	<u>Hazardous Ingredients</u>	<u>How These Can Harm You</u>
Glass Cleaner General Purpose Cleaner Carpet Spot Remover	A solvent called “Butoxyethanol”	Butoxyethanol absorbs through your skin and poisons your blood, liver, & kidneys.  Wear gloves when you use cleaners with this ingredient.
Toilet Cleaner	Hydrochloric Acid Phosphoric Acid	These acids are very good for removing hard water rings, but they can also blind you in seconds.  Wear your gloves and goggles, or better yet change to a milder product (one with Citric Acid – strong lemon juice).
Oven Cleaner Heavy Duty Degreaser	Sodium Hydroxide	Oven cleaner in a spray can – very convenient, but also very dangerous. Sodium hydroxide can blind you, and the vapors can harm your lungs.  Use it with care - wear gloves & goggles, and provide lots of fresh air.

Source: <http://www.westp2net.org/janitorial/jp4.htm>

Interested in learning more about cleaning chemical safety? Contact the Janitor Safety Project. This is a public service effort co-sponsored by the City of Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara County, and the US Environmental Protection Agency. The local contact is Steve Clark at the Community Environmental Council (805) 963-0583.

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