



[epa.gov/saferchoice](http://epa.gov/saferchoice)

# SAFER CHOICE for Child Care Centers

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Voluntary Program

## What is the Safer Choice label?

When you see a product with the Safer Choice label, it means that *every ingredient* in the product has been evaluated by EPA scientists. Only the safest ingredients are allowed in products with the Safer Choice label.

## Safer Choice for Child Care Centers

Why choose Safer Choice-labeled products?

- Children are more vulnerable to toxic chemicals because their bodies are still growing and developing.
- Children breathe more air for their size compared to adults.
- Children absorb harmful chemicals through their skin more quickly than adults because their skin is less protective than adults' skin.
- Children's skin touches the ground when they crawl and play - where harmful chemicals collect.
- Children can have more exposure to environmental toxins because they put their hands, toys, and other objects in their mouths.
- Fragrances can be allergy and asthma triggers for children. If a product qualifies for the Safer Choice label and does not use any fragrance material, the program will allow the manufacturer to add "Fragrance-Free" to the Safer Choice label.

Note: Child care centers need to abide by their state-specific child care facilities regulations governing acceptable sanitizers and disinfectants.

### Safer Choice Products

Safer Choice labels a wide range of products, including:

- Carpet cleaners
- Dry erase board cleaners
- Floor care products
- Fragrance-free products
- Laundry detergents
- Hand soaps
- Window/glass cleaners

For the full list of products visit [www.epa.gov/saferchoice/products](http://www.epa.gov/saferchoice/products)

### The Safer Choice Difference

Our product review process is grounded in more than 40 years of EPA experience evaluating chemicals in the environment and their effects on human health.

Products that carry the Safer Choice label must meet requirements for:

- Safer chemical ingredients
- Performance
- Packaging
- Ingredient disclosure
- Restricted levels of volatile organic compounds (VOCs)

Look for the Safer Choice label on products in stores near you.

### Questions?

Go to: [www.epa.gov/saferchoice](http://www.epa.gov/saferchoice)



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