

ESCAPE THE VAPE

MEET THE CHEMICAL CREW

Diacetyl



What it's used for:

As a liquid, diacetyl gives foods a buttery taste such as piña colada & chocolate cake. In a recent study, researchers found diacetyl in more than 75% of the vape liquid they tested.

How it affects the body:

It's okay to EAT small amounts of diacetyl, but inhaling it can cause "popcorn lung," a serious disease that first affected a group of microwave popcorn factory workers. The disease causes scarring of the tiny air sacs in the lungs, resulting in wheezing, coughing, and shortness of breath.

Aluminum

What it's used for:

You probably use aluminum every day. It's in foil, soda cans, door frames, hair spray cans, screens, siding, engines, vacuum cleaners, toasters, kitchen utensils...need we go on?

How it affects the body:

Inhaling aluminum has been shown to cause chemical pneumonia—an inflammation of the lungs caused by inhaling toxins or poisons. In kids, toxic levels of aluminum have been shown to cause slowed growth and deformed bones.



Nicotine



What it's used for:

Nicotine is highly addictive and is found in all forms of tobacco such as regular cigarettes, vape liquid, and chewing tobacco.

How it affects the body:

Nicotine affects the brain. When you use nicotine products, it's quickly absorbed into the bloodstream, reaching your brain within seconds.



What it's used for:

Since ancient times, arsenic has been used as a poison. These days, it's commonly found in rat poison, pesticide, and treated wood.

How it affects the body:

Arsenic is toxic. Low doses can cause nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, and stomach cramps. Larger doses can cause abnormal heart beat, damage to blood vessels, skin warts, and death. Inhaling arsenic can lead to lung cancer.

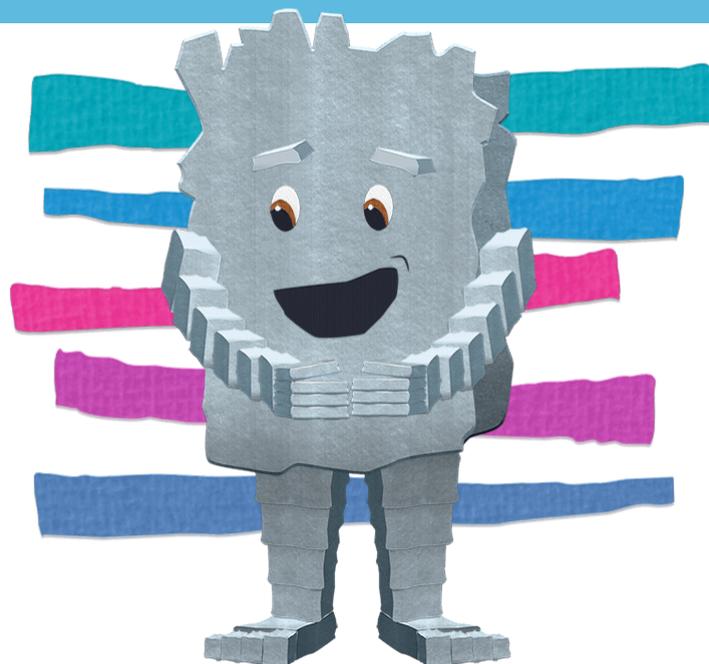
Lead

What it's used for:

Lead's been used to make things like pipes, roofing, and paint. It's also in the heavy apron used to shield people from extra radiation during an x-ray.

How it affects the body:

Two words: Lead poisoning. Lead is known to cause both immediate and long-term health problems, especially in kids. It's toxic when swallowed, eaten, or inhaled, and can lead to nerve damage, digestive system issues, and death. In young people, significant exposure has been shown to cause a drop in IQ level.



Benzene

What it's used for:

Benzene is produced by volcanoes and forest fires, and is a byproduct of crude oil production. It's used in paints, gasoline, as well as an ingredient in vet medicines that kills parasites. Tobacco smoke is also a major source of benzene.

How it affects the body:

Inhaling benzene can cause dizziness, tremors, confusion, and rapid or irregular heartbeat. Long-term exposure to benzene can cause your body's cells to not work correctly, damaging things like your immune system. It's also a carcinogen, which means that it's known to cause cancer.

