



What's On Your Skin?

by [Jill Josselson](#)

So many labels, but what do they mean???

Have you ever thought about what goes into your daily care products?

Did you know that many (97% sold in the US) have animal byproducts in them?

Even as a conscientious, savvy consumer, it may be challenging to keep up with the various labels, and marketing touting to be cruelty-free, or free of animal ingredients. How can you know what your dollar is supporting, and that what you buy is doing the least harm to the earth, the animals, and our fellow humans? In today's world, being a perfect consumer may be difficult, but we still can strive to align our choices with our values of compassion, and have a healthy living focus.

As Americans, we place trust in our government, and regulatory agencies. This trust is sometimes misplaced when it come to our skin care and cosmetic products. Our skin is our largest organ, and it absorbs what we put on it in about 26 seconds, and then it gets into our bloodstream. Many people do not realize the fact that this can affect our other organs, and do damage that we cannot see, or access, without medical testing.

Rendering facilities play a huge part in what goes into our daily skin care routine and cosmetic products. This is a recycling process of sick or euthanized animals, oils from restaurants, and meats no longer acceptable for human consumption. This is an inexpensive way to dispose of what is destructive to us, and to the Earth. Once the animal is rendered, it is a toxic material, and through improper skin care, it enters our blood stream. Rendered materials also contain heavy metals (cattle ID tags and surgical pins), pesticides, antibiotics, hormones, Styrofoam, and plastic packaging from supermarkets that are not removed during the rendering process.

Many end user products include cosmetics, toothpaste, shampoos, creams and ointments that contain the animal byproduct glycerin along with linoleic acid, oleic acid, steric acid, tallow and lanolin. These toxic derivatives also end up in our blood stream.

This is what sets Arbonne apart from other companies and products sold in the United States. Arbonne uses a plant based glycerin, and provides a botanical base to the 400+ products the company offers.

Since 1980, Arbonne has had a policy of not testing on animals, and not using animal products, or byproducts in our formulas. We are proud of this heritage, and pleased that we have also been recognized by the following organizations as a cruelty-free brand: PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals), Cruelty Free International, and Naturewatch Foundation. All Arbonne products are Certified Vegan by Vegan Action's, Certified Gluten-

Free, Certified Kosher, Certified by the BCSB (Banned Control Substances Board), and practice green standards in packaging, and shipping procedures.

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