

Chemicals in the home quiz

Circle True or False

1. Manufactures of household cleaners are required to list all ingredients of their products. T or F
2. Labels of all home and garden products must be precise, showing exactly what substances are present and the amount of each..... T or F
3. Household products must be tested for their long-term health effects before being placed on the market..... T or F
4. Products placed on the market are not guaranteed to be safe..... T or F
5. If ingredients are listed as "inert," they are harmless. T or F
6. "Active" ingredients make up the major portion of a product. T or F
7. A hazardous substance is described as highly toxic, flammable or combustible, corrosive, an irritant, a strong sensitizer, radioactive, capable of generating pressure, or capable of causing substantial illness or injury. T or F
8. How often do you read product labels at the store to find the least toxic alternative when buying cleaners and other household products? Check one.
 Never Infrequently Sometimes Most of the time Almost always Always
9. Do you make your own green household cleaners or use non-toxic alternative cleaners? Check one.
 Never Infrequently Sometimes Most of the time Almost always Always
10. Indicate how you dispose of these household items:
 - Paint
 Throw in the trash Take to a drop-off facility Take back to the store for recycling
 - Compact fluorescent light bulbs
 Throw in the trash Take to a drop-off facility Take back to the store for recycling
 - Mercury thermometer
 Throw in the trash Take to a drop-off facility Take back to the store for recycling
 - Rechargeable batteries
 Throw in the trash Take to a drop-off facility Take back to the store for recycling

Answers and notes

#:	Answer:	Notes:
1	False	
2	False	
3	False	
4	True	
5	False	"Inert" ingredients, in limited cases, may still cause a chemical reaction if combined with other substances.
6	False	An "active" ingredient is an agent that is specifically intended to kill, repel, or otherwise deter a target organism. For example, the active ingredient in Drano and other conventional drain cleaners is sodium hydroxide, otherwise known as a caustic soda or lye. It is a man-made chemical used for its corrosive properties.
7	True	
8		It's important to recognize the "signal" words on the label. These words indicate levels of hazard.
9		Making your own green cleaners from common household items such as baking soda, vinegar and lemon juice, is an easy alternative to store-bought cleaners.
10		Items should be taken to a drop-off facility or recycled at the store where purchased.