

Common household items that are toxic to cats



Cats are naturally curious and this instinct can lead them into dangerous situations. Learn which common household items are toxic to cats, and read our tips for cat-proofing your home against accidental poisoning.

If you suspect your foster cat ate something toxic, contact your case manager immediately.

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Food & Beverages

- Onions, garlic, shallots & chives
- Chocolate
- Grapes & raisins
- Alcoholic beverages
- Caffeine (energy drinks, coffee, soda)
- Walnuts and macadamias
- Salty snacks



Medications & Supplements

- Cold medicine & cough drops
- Allergy medicine
- Digestive/Nausea medication
- Antidepressants
- Antacids
- Ibuprofen
- Anti-inflammatory and pain medications
- Prescription creams/ointments
- Nicotine patches/gum



Toiletries & Beauty Products

- Body wash & shower gels
- Shampoo & conditioner
- Sunscreen
- Mosquito repellent
- Toothpaste and mouthwash
- Makeup
- Hand sanitizers
- Deodorants/antiperspirants
- Nail polish/glue/remover



Household Cleaning Products

- All-purpose cleaning sprays
- Disposable cleaning wipes
- Toilet cleaner
- Glass cleaner
- Oven cleaner
- Floor cleaner
- Car cleaning products
- Dish soap
- Laundry detergent
- Fabric softeners (liquid or sheets)
- Air fresheners & potpourri
- Pest control products (baits/poison for ants, mice, etc)



Household Items & Kids' Toys

- Mothballs
- Essential oils
- Batteries
- Play-Doh
- Slime
- Kids' toys with small or breakable parts
- Paper bags, rubber bands, paper clips
- String, yarn, ribbons



Tips for Cat-Proofing Your Home

- Re-home toxic plants
- Install safety latches on cabinets & drawers
- Get rubbish bins with a tight lid, or keep them in a cupboard with a latch
- Keep toxic items in a closet & always close the door

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- Plastic bags



If you believe your cat might have eaten something toxic, contact your case manager immediately. Any information you can provide about what they ate will be a big help.