



Stay Aware. Stay Beautiful.

Avoid lead, make your own eyeliner

Making your own surma is a healthier choice that requires only a few simple ingredients. Follow the recipe on the back of this card.

Application and Precautions:

- Use only food-grade ingredients, and avoid anything that may cause an allergic reaction or sensitivity. Do not use coconut oil.
- This recipe has no chemical preservatives or microbial protections. To avoid bacterial growth, always wash your hands before handling the eyeliner and use clean, fresh applicators/probes.
- Test a small amount on your skin before applying to your eyes. Avoid applying to sensitive parts of your eye (waterline) or other areas (mucous membranes). If you have itching or burning, redness, any hives or rashes, or other irritation, discard the eyeliner. Seek medical attention if needed.
- When applying the eyeliner, always use a clean applicator/probe or fingertip to apply to your eyelids. If applying on children, be sure to have an adult handle and safely apply the eyeliner. Never share your eyeliner or applicator/probe.
- It's best to make only what you can use right away or in a short amount of time.
- Not meant for human consumption.

Storage and Shelf Life

- Throw away unused eyeliner after two weeks and clean the storage jar well with soap and warm water. If you need to store the eyeliner, store in a cool, dry place in an airtight, glass container. Keep out of the reach of children.

ADA Accessibility - To request an ADA accommodation, contact Ecology by phone at 360-407-6700 or email at hwtrpubs@ecy.wa.gov, or visit ecology.wa.gov/accessibility. For Relay Service or TTY call 711 or 877-833-6341.

Eyeliner Recipe

Ingredients

- ½ teaspoon food grade activated charcoal
(or ¼ teaspoon unsweetened cocoa powder for brown-optional)
- ¼ teaspoon distilled water
- ½ teaspoon jojoba or almond oil
(or skin-friendly oil of your choice)
- 2-3 drops vitamin E oil
- ½ teaspoon beeswax *(small beads/pastilles work best)*
- 1 small glass container *(1 oz)*

Oil Recipe 1

(wetter application with water)

1. Mix activated charcoal (or cocoa powder) with distilled water in small glass jar
2. Add the jojoba or almond oil
3. Add 2-3 drops of Vitamin E oil until you reach the desired consistency.

Oil + Beeswax Recipe 2

(creamier, longer-lasting application, no water)

1. Mix activated charcoal (or cocoa powder) with jojoba or almond oil in small glass jar
2. Add 2-3 drops of Vitamin E oil and mix well.
3. Add beeswax to glass jar
4. Fill small sauce pan with water to about half the height of your glass jar. Heat gently on stovetop and stir until all wax has melted.
5. Remove from heat, let cool and test.
6. If mixture is too dry, add a few more drops of Vitamin E-oil, reheat, cool, and test again as necessary.

*Always test eyeliner on the back of your hand with an eyeliner brush before applying.
Never share your eyeliner or applicator/probe.*

This is just one example of a recipe. Other recipes may be available from other sources. Washington State Department of Ecology does not endorse any manufacturers or products. We haven't evaluated this recipe for performance.

Not interested in a homemade option? You can also find safer, commercially available eyeliners. Stick to purchasing products in Washington State, or look for certifications like Cradle-to-Cradle or EWG.