



COSMETICS EUROPE:
N° 24A HAIR DYE LABELLING - INFORMATION FOR
CONSUMERS

2011



RECOMMENDATION N°24a LABELLING INFORMATION AND WARNINGS FOR RETAIL HAIR COLOURING PRODUCTS

FINAL 2011

Background

The Cosmetics Directive 76/768/EEC, as amended by Commission Directives 2009/134 and 2010/04, requires warnings and information to appear on the label of cosmetic products using certain ingredients listed in Annex III part 1 or 2.

Colipa aims to develop and promote a sustainable and respected industry in Europe by advocating best practices and consumer information that will allow consumers to benefit from continuously innovative and safe products.

It has been common practice for many years for manufacturers of hair colorants to label oxidising (permanent) hair colouring products with warnings highlighting the possibility of experiencing an allergic reaction and the need to perform an allergy alert test before each colouring.

In October 2009 the Commission published an adaptation (2009/134/EC) to the Cosmetics Directive which requires reinforced allergy warnings to be labelled on all oxidative hair colouring products and on products containing direct hair colouring ingredients that have been classified as having an extreme or strong sensitising potential.

It has also become a legal requirement that for specific hair colouring ingredients the mixing ratio of oxidative hair colorant products must be labelled (Commission Directive 2009/36/EC). This aspect is addressed in the Colipa guidelines "Labelling of the mixing ratio on retail and professional oxidative hair colouring products June 2011".

In addition the Commission has issued guidelines for recommended instructions to complement Directive 2009/134/EC, which are provided as Annex I to this recommendation.

Therefore in this Recommendation Colipa sets out the legally required wording for the allergy warnings and recommends how to provide information in product leaflets. Colipa recommends that this language appears in readable and easily identifiable characters in an appropriate place to be determined by each manufacturer on its product cartons and instruction leaflets.

Colipa reminds its members that it remains the sole responsibility of the manufacturer or importer to ensure that products placed on the market are safe and comply with all laws and regulations and carry appropriate warnings.

Manufacturers should always consult the Cosmetics Directive and its relevant Adaptations in order to find out which requirements apply for a specific hair colouring ingredient.

This recommendation replaces Colipa recommendation No. 17a as far as oxidizing hair colouring products for consumer home use are concerned.

PRODUCT LABELLING

Legal Requirements (carton and container)¹

- a) *Required for oxidative hair colouring products and on products containing direct hair colouring ingredients that have been classified as having extreme or strong sensitising potential, as specified in the Cosmetics Directive.*



Hair colorants can cause severe allergic reactions.

Read and follow instructions.

This product is not intended for use on persons under the age of 16.

Temporary “black henna” tattoos may increase your risk of allergy.

Do not colour your hair if:

- you have a rash on your face or sensitive, irritated and damaged scalp,
- you have ever experienced any reaction after colouring your hair,
- you have experienced a reaction to a temporary “black henna” tattoo in the past.’

- b) *Depending on the ingredients present in the formulation (please refer to the Cosmetics Directive for details):*

¹ Article 6(1)d of the Cosmetics Directive specifies: “Where this is impossible for practical reasons, an enclosed leaflet, label, tape or card must contain that information to which the consumer is referred either by abbreviated information or the symbol given in Annex VIII, which must appear on the container and the packaging;”

² There are no size or colour specifications for the symbol – other than indelible, easily legible and visible according to the Cosmetics Directive.

Contains [ingredient name]

Avoid contact with eyes. Rinse immediately if product comes into contact with them. Do not use to dye eyelashes or eyebrows. Rinse hair well after application. Wear suitable gloves.

RECOMMENDED ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS

Carton

These are not legally mandatory texts, but represent important communication points to users of products. Modification of the wording for better understanding by consumers is permissible:

(Allergy Alert Test/Skin Sensitivity test or similar wording)

Conduct an allergy alert test 48 hours before each time you colour (see enclosed leaflet), even if you have already used colouring products before. So remember to buy the product 48 hours in advance.

In case of any reaction or when in doubt consult a doctor before using any hair colour product.

Keep out of reach of children

Leaflet

The leaflet is not covered by the requirements of the Directive and these are not legally mandatory texts, but they represent important communication points to users of products. Modification of the wording for better understanding by consumers is permissible:

Always read the safety instructions and follow the directions for use carefully.

IMPORTANT: This product is not intended for use on persons under the age of 16.



Hair colorants can cause severe allergic reactions.

Do not colour your hair if:

- you have a rash on your face or sensitive, irritated and damaged scalp,
- you have ever experienced any reaction after colouring your hair,
- you have experienced a reaction to a temporary “black henna” tattoo in the past.’

Temporary black henna tattoos may increase your risk of allergy.

Keep the empty carton and the instruction leaflet in case you experience a reaction.

Avoid contact with eyes. Rinse immediately if product comes into contact with them. Do not use to dye eyelashes or eyebrows. Rinse hair well after application. Wear suitable gloves.

Safety Instructions

1. Perform an allergy alert test 48 hours before each product use even if you have already used this or other colouring products before.

(Test protocol to be decided by each producer)

This test represents an important precaution. However, be aware that even if an allergy alert test has been carried out you may still experience an allergic reaction when you colour your hair. The allergy alert test is not a guarantee of avoiding future allergic reactions. Please consult a doctor, if you have any doubts.

2. If during colouring you experience:

- any stinging or burning and/or rash, rinse immediately and discontinue colouring your hair as this may be an indication of a more serious reaction. Consult a doctor or seek medical advice.
- rapidly spreading skin rash, dizziness or faintness, shortness of breath and/or swelling to eyes/face, rinse immediately and seek immediate medical attention and contact the manufacturer.

3. If after colouring or on the following days you experience problems such as skin or scalp itching, skin or scalp rash, swelling to eyes/face, blistering and/or skin or scalp weeping seek immediate medical attention and contact the manufacturer.

Potential further product-specific precautions (depending on product formulation and form)

- This product contains ingredients which may cause severe eye irritation and possible permanent eye injury. If the developer or hair colour mixture* gets into your eye, flush immediately with a large amount of lukewarm water and seek medical advice.
- If you wear contact lenses during application and any product gets into your eye, remove the contact lens first, then flush immediately with a large amount of lukewarm water and seek medical advice.
- Do not inhale or ingest the product.
- Avoid unnecessary skin contact.
- Do not use if your hair has been coloured with henna or metal dyes.
- Remove all metal objects from hair before colouring and keep them away during colouring. Do not use metal hair styling tools.
- Keep developer* away from heat and light. Do not mix this colorant with any other product. Do not keep any unused product. Do not leave the mixture in a closed bottle (bottle may expand or burst).

* or similar words used to describe product and its components

ANNEX I (Commission Guidelines)



Commission guidelines recommended labelling hair dyes and allergy_2009.pdf

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