Paint Strippers – Safer Alternatives
Sold by Major U.S. Retailers

This list of paint strippers and paint removers sold by major U.S. retailers that do not contain methylene chloride or N-methylpyrrolidone (NMP) was compiled by Safer Chemicals, Healthy Families to show the wide array of safer paint strippers that are available to consumers from various retailers. This list is provided for informational purposes only; Safer Chemicals, Healthy Families does not endorse any of these products.

Below, we provide the name and image of each product, a short description of its function, one or more links where the product can be purchased online, and the ingredients as well as any specific designation by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) indicating that an ingredient is a safer alternative. For more details, refer to our Methodology at the end of this document.

**BEHR Premium Wood Stain & Finish Stripper (#64)**

According to the Product Overview on The Home Depot’s website: “... a cleaner specifically formulated to remove existing oil and latex coatings.”


According to the 2016 SDS for “Wood Stain & Finish Stripper” (#64) available from here: [http://www.behr.com/consumer/products/safety-msds](http://www.behr.com/consumer/products/safety-msds), the product contains the following ingredients in these percentages by weight:

- ✓ 1-5% Sodium hydroxide (US EPA Safer Chemical Ingredients List: Green Circle - Verified Low Concern)
- ✓ 1-5% Sodium chloride (US EPA Safer Chemical Ingredients List: Green Circle - Verified Low Concern)
- ✓ 1-5% Diethylene glycol monobutyl ether (US EPA Safer Chemical Ingredients List: Yellow Triangle - best available in class but some hazard profile issues; is designated as a Hazardous Air Pollutant under the Clean Air Act)
EZ Strip All-Purpose Remover

According to the Product Overview on The Home Depot’s website: “. . . a fast acting spray gel stripper . . Remove[s] all types of paint spill and overspray, graffiti . . and just tough sticky stuff”

According to the MSDS: Product use is “Non-toxic graffiti remover”


According to the 2015 MSDS on the EZ Strip website here, [http://www.ezstrip.ca/wp-content/uploads/EZ_Strip-USA-MSDS-APR.pdf](http://www.ezstrip.ca/wp-content/uploads/EZ_Strip-USA-MSDS-APR.pdf), the product contains the following “hazardous ingredients” at these percentages:

- 1-5% Dimethyl adipate (US EPA Safer Chemical Ingredients List: Green Circle - Verified Low Concern)
- 3-7% Triethyl phosphate
- 10-30% Dimethyl glutarate (US EPA Safer Chemical Ingredients List: Green Circle - Verified Low Concern)
- 3-7% Dimethyl succinate (US EPA Safer Chemical Ingredients List: Green Circle - Verified Low Concern)
According to the Product Overview on The Home Depot’s website: “Removes multiple layers of latex and oil-based paint, varnish, lacquer from wood, metal, tile, glass, stone and masonry surfaces . . . Low in Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) safe for indoor or outdoor use allowing you to work in the same area you are stripping paint with no fear”


According to the 2015 MSDS on the EZ Strip website here, http://www.ezstrip.ca/wp-content/uploads/EZ_Strip-USA-MSDS-PVR.pdf, the product contains the following “hazardous ingredients” in these percentages:

- ✓ 3-7% Dimethyl adipate (US EPA Safer Chemical Ingredients List: Green Circle - Verified Low Concern)
- ✓ 5-10% Dimethyl succinate (US EPA Safer Chemical Ingredients List: Green Circle - Verified Low Concern)
- ✓ 10-30% Dimethyl glutarate (US EPA Safer Chemical Ingredients List: Green Circle - Verified Low Concern)
- ✓ 3-7% Triethyl phosphate
Goo Gone Latex Paint Clean Up (spray)

According to the Goo Gone website (https://googone.com/products/latex-paint-clean/):
“. . . conveniently clings to vertical surfaces, making it easy to clean spills, splatter, brushes, and more . . . Works on wet and dried latex/ acrylic/enamel paint, art/craft paint, varnish, shellac, caulk”

Sold at https://www.lowes.com/pd/Goo-Gone-24-fl-oz-Liquid-Multi-Surface-Paint-Remover/1000139881,
http://www.homedepot.com/p/Goo-Gone-24-oz-Latex-Paint-Clean-Up-2192/300152295, and
https://www.amazon.com/dp/B01JIRIIP4/

According to the 2016 SDS for “Goo Gone Latex Paint Clean-Up” at http://googone.com/sds/, the product contains the following ingredients in percentages by weight:

- 7-13 % Acetone
- 1-5% Benzyl alcohol (US EPA Safer Chemical Ingredients List: Yellow Triangle - best available in class but some hazard profile issues)
Goof Off Heavy Duty Remover (spray)

According to the Product Overview on the Goof Off website (https://goofoffproducts.com/): “Removes the tough spots and stains ordinary household cleaners can’t!”


According to the 2015 SDS for “Heavy Duty Removers” at https://goofoffproducts.com/product/heavy-duty-remover-22-oz-trigger-spray/, the product contains the following “hazardous components” in these concentrations:

- ✓ 5-10% Benzenemethanol (US EPA Safer Chemical Ingredients List: Yellow Triangle - best available in class but some hazard profile issues)
- ✓ 5-10% Oleic acid potassium salt
- ✓ 1-5% Ethanol, 2-Butoxy-
- ✓ 1-5% Diethylene glycol monobutyl ether (US EPA Safer Chemical Ingredients List: Yellow Triangle - best available in class but some hazard profile issues; is designated as a Hazardous Air Pollutant under the Clean Air Act)
- ✓ 1-5% Propylene glycol phenyl ether (US EPA Safer Chemical Ingredients List: Yellow Triangle - best available in class but some hazard profile issues)
Krud Kutter Graffiti Remover

According to the Product Overview on The Home Depot’s website: “. . . removes aerosol paint, enamel, lacquers and more from most hard, soft or porous surfaces.”


According to the 2015 SDS, https://www.homedepot.com/catalog/pdfImages/25/25a5e51d-c754-40b3-8d07-f5c43ebabb2d.pdf, the product contains the following “hazardous substances” in percentages by weight:

- 10-25% Benzyl alcohol (US EPA Safer Chemical Ingredients List: Yellow Triangle - best available in class but some hazard profile issues)
- 10-25% Ethoxylated alcohols (CASRN not provided)
- 2.5-10% Dipropylene glycol monomethyl ether (US EPA Safer Chemical Ingredients List: Green Circle - Verified Low Concern)
- 2.5-10% Alcohols, C10-16, ethoxylated, sulfates, sodium salts (US EPA Safer Chemical Ingredients List: Green Circle - Verified Low Concern)
- 0.1-1% Ethanol (US EPA Safer Chemical Ingredients List: Green Circle - Verified Low Concern)
- <0.1% C10-16 Ethoxylated Alcohols (US EPA Safer Chemical Ingredients List: Green Circle - Verified Low Concern)
Krud Kutter Tough Task Citrus Remover

According to the Product Overview on The Home Depot’s website: “...a multi-purpose cleaner designed to remove tough stains and other stubborn substances from surfaces...Also works to remove dried latex paint, oil based paint splatters, caulk and wallpaper adhesive.”


According to the 2015 SDS, http://www.homedepot.com/catalog/pdfImages/f4/f43da96f-1d7a-40ca-a665-302d3f106f47.pdf, the product contains the following “hazardous substances” in percentages by weight:

- 1-2.5% Ethoxylated Alcohols (CASRN is proprietary)
- 0.1-1% D-Limonene (5989-27-5) (US EPA Safer Chemical Ingredients List: Yellow Triangle - best available in class but some hazard profile issues; is a known sensitizer)
Krud Kutter Tough Task Remover

According to the Product Overview on The Home Depot's website: “...a multi-purpose cleaner designed to remove tough stains and other stubborn substances from surfaces ... Also works to remove dried latex paint, oil based paint splatters, caulk and wallpaper adhesive.”


According to the 2017 SDS, http://www.rustoleum.com/MSDS/ENGLISH/KR324.pdf, the product contains the following “hazardous substances” in percentages by weight:

✓ 1-2.5% Ethoxylated Alcohols (no CASRN provided)
✓ 1-2.5% Sodium Metasilicate (US EPA Safer Chemical Ingredients List: Green Circle - Verified Low Concern)
Motsenbocker’s LIFT OFF #5 Latex Paint Remover

According to the Product Overview on The Home Depot’s website: “. . . fast, easy removal of fresh and dried latex paint and latex enamel from walls, trim, molding, floors, wood, vinyl, tile, laminate, metal, brick, concrete, and vehicles.”


According to the 2016 SDS, https://www.homedepot.com/catalog/pdfImages/f5/f582c41b-881b-4513-98fd-6768a2b9a207.pdf, the product contains the following ingredients at the percentages listed:
- 1-20% Glycol Ether
- 1-20% Acetone (a.k.a. 2-propanone)
- 1-20% organic salt (CASRN not provided)

Motsenbocker’s LIFT OFF Paint and Varnish Remover (Trigger bottle)

According to the Product Overview on The Home Depot’s website: “. . . successfully strips enamels and acrylic paints, shellacs, varnishes, stains and other solvent and waterborne coatings. It can be used on wood, metal, concrete, stone and brick, as well as fabrics, clothing and hands. It can be used on paint tools and equipment, brushes, windows, cabinets and floors.”


According to the 2016 SDS, https://www.homedepot.com/catalog/pdfImages/6d/6de40398-3851-43fb-b9f4-db4f0f7ca53a.pdf, the product contains the following ingredients at the percentages listed:
- 1-20% Acetone (a.k.a. 2-propanone)
- 1-20% Glycol Ether
Motsenbocker’s LIFT OFF Spray Paint and Graffiti Remover

According to the Product Overview on The Home Depot’s website: “... fast and easy removal of spray paint, aerosol paint, semi-gloss, high-gloss, acrylic, enamel, and oil lacquer from vehicles, street signs, buildings, walls, floors, fiberglass, metal, tile, vinyl, plastic, brick, and concrete.”


According to the 2016 SDS, https://www.homedepot.com/catalog/pdfImages/a1/a13312e4-5d8a-4d77-940f-a2c4b6534b3d.pdf, the product contains the following ingredients at the percentages listed:
- 1-20% Glycol Ether
- 1-20% Acetone (a.k.a. 2-propanone)

Rain Guard VandlClean Super Graffiti Cleaner

According to the Product Overview on The Home Depot’s website: “... suitable for removing graffiti from brick, cement, wood and other porous surfaces.”


No ingredients are disclosed in the 2016 SDS, http://www.homedepot.com/catalog/pdfImages/72/72a8e4c5-36dc-45e5-9baa-3d44ddf3cb0f.pdf. The SDS also reads: “THIS PRODUCT DOES NOT CONTAIN ANY SUBSTANCES KNOWN TO THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA TO CAUSE CANCER OR REPRODUCTIVE HARM.”
Rust-Oleum Paint Stripper for Concrete

According to the Product Overview on The Home Depot’s website:
“... removes layers of paint, stain, sealers and epoxy coatings. Effectively removes coatings on both interior and exterior surfaces.”

Sold at [http://www.homedepot.com/p/Rust-Oleum-1-gal-Paint-Stripper-for-Concrete-Case-of-4-310984/300274252](http://www.homedepot.com/p/Rust-Oleum-1-gal-Paint-Stripper-for-Concrete-Case-of-4-310984/300274252)

According to the 2016 SDS, [http://www.homedepot.com/catalog/pdfImages/ac/ac8f355a-58bb-4495-bf6b-823d4131ba87.pdf](http://www.homedepot.com/catalog/pdfImages/ac/ac8f355a-58bb-4495-bf6b-823d4131ba87.pdf), the product contains the following “hazardous substances” in these percentages by weight:
- ✓ 25-50% Benzyl alcohol (US EPA Safer Chemical Ingredients List: Yellow Triangle - best available in class but some hazard profile issues)
- ✓ 2.5-10% Formic acid (US EPA Safer Chemical Ingredients List: Green Circle - Verified Low Concern)

Wolman DeckStrip: Stain & Finish Remover

According to the Product Overview on The Home Depot’s website:
“... used to strip away weathered pigmented stains from exterior wood and prepare underlying surface for re-coating... Safer-to-use than paint strippers. . .”


- ✓ 2.5-10% Sodium Hydroxide (US EPA Safer Chemical Ingredients List: Green Circle - Verified Low Concern)
**Wolman DeckStrip-ASR: Acrylic Stain Remover**

According to the Product Overview on The Home Depot's website: “. . . easily strips hard-to-remove acrylic stain from exterior wood . . . Safer-to-use than paint strippers . . .”


According to the 2015 SDS, [http://www.homedepot.com/catalog/pdfImages/af/aff3dfb7-c75b-43fe-a11a-921ab32771a2.pdf](http://www.homedepot.com/catalog/pdfImages/af/aff3dfb7-c75b-43fe-a11a-921ab32771a2.pdf), the product contains the following “hazardous substances” in these percentages by weight:

- 2.5-10% Ethylene Glycol Monobutyl Ether
- 2.5-10% Sodium Hydroxide (US EPA Safer Chemical Ingredients List: Green Circle - Verified Low Concern)

**Methodology.** To find examples of paint stripping (or removal) products that don’t contain methylene chloride or NMP, Safer Chemicals, Healthy Families staff searched on various websites for the terms “paint stripper,” “paint remover,” and “paint and stripper.” We then reviewed the Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) or Safety Data Sheets (SDS) (standard forms prepared by the manufacturer as required by OSHA) for each product that was identifiable as or likely to be a paint stripper or remover to determine which ones contained alternate chemicals. We confirmed that some of these products are also sold at physical store locations around the Washington, DC area.¹

Where the SDS or MSDS showed a Chemical Abstract Service Registry Number (CASRN) for an ingredient, we provided in parentheses the placement on the US EPA’s Safer Chemical Ingredients List (SCIL) where it was available. We did not include products with ingredients that were rated by Clean Production Action’s GreenScreen® assessment criteria and received scores of Benchmark-1 (Avoid – Chemical of High Concern) or List Translator-1 (meets one or more criteria for BM-1 and is likely to receive that score after a full GreenScreen assessment).²

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¹ We visited The Home Depot store in Bethesda, MD and the Lowe’s store in Gaithersburg, MD in May and June 2017.
² EPA’s SCIL is here: [https://www.epa.gov/saferchoice/safer-ingredients](https://www.epa.gov/saferchoice/safer-ingredients). For more information about the GreenScreen® Method, see [https://www.greenscreenchemicals.org/learn/full-greenscreen-method](https://www.greenscreenchemicals.org/learn/full-greenscreen-method) and [https://www.greenscreenchemicals.org/learn/greenscreen-list-translator](https://www.greenscreenchemicals.org/learn/greenscreen-list-translator). We reviewed the scores provided in this report: [https://www.bizngo.org/resources/entry/resource-methylene](https://www.bizngo.org/resources/entry/resource-methylene) and in this database: [https://commons.healthymaterials.net/home](https://commons.healthymaterials.net/home) (registration is free).