

IKEA FAQ

CHEMICALS

GENERAL

What is the IKEA view on harmful chemicals?

Customers should always feel confident that products bought at IKEA are safe and healthy to use. IKEA products must not contain any harmful chemical substances. They shall fulfil all legal requirements, but they shall also fulfil, or even exceed, customer expectations. Whenever possible, IKEA takes the strictest existing legal requirements and applies them globally on all products on all our sales markets.

IKEA works precautionary and has phased out several chemicals that could potentially be harmful, often ahead of legislation. Some examples are lead, brominated flame retardants, phthalate and formaldehyde in coatings.

Keeping kids safer with better plastics

SAGOSTEN inflatable children's floor cushions are made from polyolefin, a smooth and durable plastic without the chlorine and other harmful additives found in the more commonly used PVC.



What is the IKEA approach on avoiding harmful effects to people's health and the environment?

Our work on chemicals is aimed at avoiding any harmful effects to health and environment, throughout the whole life cycle:

- in the production of raw material
- during the production of final material and product
- during transport and distribution
- during use of the product
- end-of-life of the product (waste/recycling)

How does IKEA secure the manufacturing process from a chemical point of view?

All IKEA suppliers need to comply with the IKEA supplier Code of Conduct for suppliers of products, materials and services to IKEA, IWAY. It defines the minimum requirements for environment and social & working conditions, including handling of chemicals in the supply chain. In addition, all IKEA suppliers need to comply with the chemical restrictions that are outlined in our product specifications.

How can IKEA secure that no harmful substances are present in the final product?

IKEA has strict requirements that we apply on all products. We apply the precautionary principle regarding chemicals and the restrictions are outlined in our product specifications, in which both legal requirements and customer expectations are taken into account. The specifications comprise the binding contract between the suppliers and IKEA.

We work with risk assessments before production, tests in production and tests of final products both at our own laboratory and at external third-party laboratories to verify compliance. We do continuous verifying tests as well as audits with random checks to follow-up on fulfilment of requirements.

Over the years we have learned that responsible long term collaborations with suppliers and other stakeholders are the best ways to exchange knowledge and create lasting change. A stable partnership gives the best possibility to develop and improve, whenever the need arises.

What is REACH and does IKEA comply with it?

The Registration, Evaluation, Authorization and Restriction of Chemicals Regulation EC 1907/2006 (REACH), is an European regulation on chemicals. With publication of the candidate list for authorization, the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) identifies substances of very high concern (SVHC) that manufacturers must disclose to customers if used above 0.1 percent by weight in their products.

All IKEA products, globally, shall comply with international and national legislation on chemicals, including the EU chemicals legislation REACH.

