

Warning: Cosmetics Are Tested on Animals
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Photo Credit: Beth Tusch_Makeup1_Stock Exchange_July 12, 2011

Animals don't wear makeup, human beings do. According to PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals), <https://secure.peta.org/site/Advocacy?cmd=display&page=UserAction&id=2061> "hundreds of mice, rats, cats, dogs, birds, rabbits, monkeys, and other animals are dying in cruel and unnecessary medical and product-testing experiments. In fact, 219 animals are killed every minute in a U.S. lab. They die in pain, alone, without a gentle touch or a soothing voice. Animal studies teach us nothing about the health of humans because animals of different species absorb, metabolize, and eliminate substances differently than humans do. The truth is that testing on animals is bad science: It is unreliable and unnecessary." Cosmetic companies such as Afterglow Cosmetics, Ecco Bella Cosmetics, The Body Shop, and others don't test makeup on animals. Unfortunately, many popular cosmetic companies use ingredients in their makeup that has been tested on animals.

Founded in 1883 by Caroline Earle White, The American Anti-Vivisection Society is the oldest non-profit animal advocacy and educational organization in the U.S. which has been working to end the experimentation on animals in research, testing, and education. According to AAVS' product testing page, "Animals are not 'little people,' and their bodies often respond differently than humans. Traditional assumption is that animals respond the same way that humans do when exposed to certain products, animals are continually used to test safety and/or effectiveness of drugs, household and personal care products, chemicals, medical devices, etc." Visit http://www.aavs.org/site/c.bkLTKfOSLhK6E/b.6457299/k.82D0/Types_of_Animal_Testing.htm to learn the different types of animal testing.

Many cosmetic companies purchase raw ingredients from companies that do test on animals. The ingredients are used to make blush, bronzer, eye shadow, eyeliner, lipstick, mascara, and other makeup products. However, some cosmetic companies mislead consumers by printing the following on their packaging:

- Not tested on animals.
- We do not test on animals.
- Cruelty-free.
- The bunny logo.

These words don't necessarily mean makeup is cruelty-free. According to Leaping Bunny, "the image of a bunny on a label may only refer to the finished product, when in fact, most animal testing occurs at the ingredient level." Visit <http://www.leapingbunny.org/myths.php> to learn the myths about cruelty-free certification. Also visit PETA's Beauty and Personal page at <http://www.peta.org/living/beauty-and-personal-care/companies/default.aspx> and Beautypedia

Reviews at <http://www.beautypedia.com/AnimalTesting.aspx> to find out which companies do and do not test on animals.

Enhancing one's beauty with makeup that's been tested on animals isn't environmentally conscious. Stand up for animals and purchase cruelty-free cosmetics. Visit <http://www.leapingbunny.org/indexcus.php> for a list of cruelty-free cosmetic companies. Switching to makeup that's not tested on animals will save them pain and suffering. Sign "The Cruelty-Free Pledge" at <http://www.leapingbunnypledge.org/pledge.aspx> today. Looking beautiful while being environmentally conscious has never been this easy and stylish.