Wipes 101



Wet wipes might look the same, but they are engineered and made with different types of fibers, ingredients. disposal instructions, and purposes in mind. And since more than 90% of wipes are not meant for flushing (i.e., non-flushable) and less than 10% are flushable, knowing the difference can keep you #FlushSmart!

Distinct purpose, unique performance

Below is a quick guide for understanding the different types of wipes:

NEVER FLUSHABLE

Baby Wipes

Used to clean the sensitive skin of infants during diaper changes

→ Typically, a mix of soft polymers (plastic) and plant-based fibers

Surface Cleaning and Antibacterial Wipes

Disinfects or removes dirt and arime from surfaces in bathrooms, kitchens, healthcare facilities, and workplaces. Where indicated, they can also disinfect surfaces.

- → Sufficient coarseness to remove hardened material
- → Typically made of polymers (plastic) to deliver disinfectants or other ingredients

Facial or Makeup Wipes

Removes makeup, oils, and may exfoliate

- → Contains ingredients to dissolve and lift makeup and oil
- → May include acne treatment ingredients



Hand & Face Towelettes

Cleans hands and faces quickly, often on-the-go

- → May include antibacterial ingredients to sanitize hands
- → Can sometimes be smaller than average



Cosmetic products for rinse-free cleaning or facial treatments

→ Contain ingredients like moisturizers, hyaluronic acids, collagen, and others to target specific beauty needs

Toilet Cleaning Wipes

Used in a bathroom setting for cleaning toilets, sinks and tubs

→ Contain antibacterial and hard surface cleaning ingredients

MIGHT BE FLUSHABLE

Toddler Wipes

Made for assisting in toilet training and transitioning out of diapers

- → Slightly stronger than toilet tissue
- → Carefully read disposal instructions and look for the "Do Not Flush" symbol

Medicated Wipes

Provide rinse-free cleansing solutions and topical medication delivery for patients at home or in hospital care

- → Product categories include incontinence, hemorrhoids, feminine hygiene, and large bath wipes; may contain witch hazel
- → Always look for "Do Not Flush" symbol and read disposal instructions

FLUSHABLE

Flushable Wipes

Also known as moist toilet tissue and is typically used as an adult or family-friendly toileting product

- → Softness of dry toilet tissue and holds up in wet solution
- → Engineered to break up once flushed
- → Made with only short plant-based fibers (never plastic) in a wet solution
- → Used alongside dry toilet paper or as a replacement to toilet paper



Take action to protect your plumbing

Look for the "Do Not Flush" symbol on wipes packaging. When in doubt, throw it out!











