

List of Functions

Name	Description
ABRASIVE	Removing unwanted tissue or foreign materials from various body surfaces, including mechanical tooth cleaning and/or gloss improvement.
ABSORBENT	Taking up water- and/or oil-soluble (dissolved or finely dispersed) substances.
ADHESIVE	Tending to unite/bind/bond surfaces together.
ANTI-SEBORRHEIC	Preventing or relieving the symptoms of seborrhea and/or seborrheic dermatitis, including dandruff.
ANTI-SEBUM	Helping control sebum production.
ANTICAKING	Preventing agglomeration of particulate solids into lumps or hard masses (cohesive cake), thus allowing free flow of particles.
ANTICORROSIVE	Preventing and or inhibiting the corrosion of the packaging material.
ANTIFOAMING	Suppressing foam during manufacturing or reducing the tendency of finished products to generate foam.
ANTIMICROBIAL	Preventing and/or slowing down microbial growth.
ANTIOXIDANT	Inhibiting reactions promoted by oxygen, thus avoiding oxidation and rancidity.
ANTIPERSPIRANT	Reducing perspiration.
ANTIPLAQUE	Helping protect against plaque.
ANTISTATIC	Preventing and/or reducing static electricity by neutralising electrical charge on surfaces.
ASTRINGENT	Contracting and/or tightening the skin.
BINDING	Providing adhesive properties during and after compression in cosmetic tablets and/or cakes.
BLEACHING	Bleaching or lightening the shade of hair and/or skin.
BUFFERING	Stabilising the pH of an aqueous medium in a narrow range even if an acid or base is added. Altering and/or maintaining a cosmetic product's pH at the desired level.
BULKING	Non-reactive (chemically inert), solid ingredients that dilute other solids and/or increase the volume of cosmetic products.
CHELATING	Forming complexes with metal ions which could affect the stability and/or appearance of cosmetics.
CLEANSING	Helping to keep the body surface clean.
COLORANT	Exclusively or mainly intended to colour the cosmetic product, the body as a whole or certain parts thereof, by absorption or reflection of visible light; (precursors of oxidative hair colorants shall be deemed colorants). All authorised colorants are substances in the positive list of Annex IV to the Cosmetics Regulation 1223/2009.
DENATURANT	Rendering cosmetics unpalatable. Mostly added to cosmetics containing ethyl alcohol to make it unsuitable for ingestion.
DEODORANT	Reducing and/or eliminating unpleasant odour. Contributing against the formation of malodour on body surfaces.
DEPILATORY	Breaking down the the mechanical strength of hair fibers so that they can be removed by mild scraping/rubbing.
DETANGLING	Reducing or eliminating hair intertwining due to hair surface alteration or damage and, thus, helping combing.
DISPERSING NON-SURFACTANT	Facilitating the dispersion of solids in liquids. They function primarily by coating the solid through the process of adsorption, thus changing the surface characteristic of the suspended solid.
EMULSION STABILISING	Helping the process of emulsification and improving emulsion stability and shelf-life.
EPILATING	Applied to the skin, and stripped off quickly to remove hair. With epilation the entire hair is removed from the follicle, whereas with depilation the hair is removed only to the surface of the skin.
EXFOLIATING	Initiating and/or accelerating removal of the layers of dead skin cells from the skin surface.
EYELASH CONDITIONING	Conditioning and enhancing the appearance of eyelashes. Improving the gloss or sheen of eyelashes, coating the eyelash hair to increase the appearance of its diameter and length, or helping with the separation of the eyelash hair.
FILM FORMING	Producing (upon application) a continuous film on the skin, hair or nails.
FLAVOURING	Imparting taste and/or flavour to a cosmetic product.
FOAMING	Trapping numerous small bubbles of air or other gas within a small volume of liquid by modifying the surface tension of the liquid.
FRAGRANCE	Imparting an odour or taste. Creating a perceivable pleasant smell and/or masking a bad smell.
GEL FORMING	Giving the consistency of a gel (a semi-solid preparation with some elasticity) to a liquid preparation.
HAIR CONDITIONING	Enhancing the appearance and feel of hair. Leaving the hair easy to comb, supple, soft and shiny and/or imparting volume, lightness, gloss, texture, etc.
HAIR DYEING	Imparting color to hair. Hair dyeing preparations may be temporary, semi-permanent, permanent, depending on the length of time the colorant remains on the hair.
HAIR FIXING	Permitting physical control of hair style.
HAIR WAVING OR STRAIGHTENING	Modifying the chemical structure of the hair, allowing it to be set in the style required (permanent waves or hair straightening).

HUMECTANT	Retaining and/or preserving the moisture in a product during use.
KERATOLYTIC	Helping to eliminate the dead cells of the stratum corneum.
LIGHT STABILIZER	Protecting the cosmetic product from deterioration effects of light.
LYTIC	Helping to break down lipids, proteins, and polysaccharides into smaller components, usually by the action of enzymes.
MOISTURISING	Increasing the water content of the skin and keeping it soft and smooth.
NAIL CONDITIONING	Improving and/or enhancing the cosmetic characteristics of the nail (moisturizing, increasing sheen, reducing brittleness and flaking, etc.).
NAIL SCULPTING	Forming a hard structure that resembles the nail plate.
NOT REPORTED	No function currently reported
OCCLUSIVE	Preventing and/or slowing down the evaporation of water from the skin surface.
OPACIFYING	Reducing transparency or translucency of cosmetics.
ORAL CARE	Providing cosmetic effects to the oral cavity, e.g. cleansing, deodorising, protecting.
OXIDISING	Changing the chemical nature of another ingredient by adding oxygen (or removing hydrogen).
PEARLESCENT	Imparting a nacreous appearance to cosmetics.
PERFUMING	Used for perfume and aromatic raw materials.
pH ADJUSTERS	Controlling the pH of cosmetic products.
PLASTICISER	Softening and making supple synthetic polymers that otherwise could not be easily deformed, spread or worked out.
PRESERVATIVE	Exclusively or mainly intended to inhibit the development of micro-organisms in the cosmetic product. All authorised preservatives are substances in the positive list of Annex V to the Cosmetics Regulation 1223/2009.
PROPELLANT	Generating pressure in an aerosol pack, expelling contents when the valve is opened. Some liquefied propellants can act as solvents.
REDUCING	Changing the chemical nature of another ingredient by adding hydrogen (or removing oxygen).
REFATTING	Replenishing the lipids of the hair or of the top layers of the skin.
REFRESHING	Imparting a pleasant freshness to the skin.
SKIN CONDITIONING	Maintaining the skin in good condition.
SKIN CONDITIONING - EMOLLIENT	Acting as lubricants on the skin surface providing the skin with a soft and smooth appearance.
SKIN CONDITIONING - HUMECTANT	Increasing the water content of the top layers of the skin. Humectants are primarily hygroscopic agents drawing moisture from the surrounding air.
SKIN CONDITIONING - MISCELLANEOUS	Enhancing the appearance of dry and/or damaged skin by reducing flaking and restoring suppleness.
SKIN CONDITIONING - OCCLUSIVE	Retarding the evaporation of water from the skin surface. Occlusives are generally lipids which tend to remain on the skin surface and thus increase the water content of skin.
SKIN PROTECTING	Helping to avoid harmful effects to the skin from external factors.
SLIP MODIFIER	Enhancing the flow properties of other ingredients without reacting chemically with them.
SMOOTHING	Seeking to achieve an even skin surface by decreasing roughness or irregularities.
SOLVENT	Dissolving other components of cosmetics. Solvents are usually liquids (aqueous and nonaqueous).
SOOTHING	Lightening discomfort of the skin or of the scalp.
SURFACE MODIFIER	Applied to other cosmetic components to make them more hydrophilic or hydrophobic, or to modify their physical/chemical properties (in some cases, surface modifiers may form a covalent bond with substrates).
SURFACTANT	Helping other ingredients that normally do not mix to dissolve or disperse in one another. Surfactants are also called a surface active agents as they lower the surface tension of water or reduce the interfacial tension between immiscible components.
SURFACTANT - CLEANSING	Wetting body surfaces, emulsifying or solubilizing oils, and suspending soil (generally, such ingredients contribute to the foaming and lathering properties of cleansing products).
SURFACTANT - DISPERSING	Helping distribute an insoluble solid in a liquid phase.
SURFACTANT - EMULSIFYING	Helping suspensions or dispersions of liquids in a second liquid by reducing the surface tension of the substances to be emulsified.
SURFACTANT - FOAM BOOSTING	Increasing foaming capacity and/or stabilize foams in general.
SURFACTANT - HYDROTROPE	Enhancing the water solubility of another surfactant.
SURFACTANT - SOLUBILIZING	Helping another component (solute) to dissolve in a medium in which it is not normally soluble.
TANNING	Darkening the skin with or without exposure to UV.
TONIC	Producing a feeling of well-being on skin and hair.
UV ABSORBER	Protecting the cosmetic product from the effects of UV-light.
UV FILTER	Exclusively or mainly intended to protect the skin and/or hair against certain UV radiation by absorbing, reflecting or scattering UV radiation. All authorised UV filters are substances in the positive list of Annex VI to the Cosmetics Regulation 1223/2009.
VISCOSITY CONTROLLING	Increasing or decreasing the viscosity (thickness) of cosmetics.