

Tupperware Consumer Product Safety

This purpose of this training is to prepare you to answer questions and concerns which your customers may put to you regarding the safety of foods stored in Tupperware. This training will also address the use of Tupperware plastics in the microwave oven.

This training is set up as a question and answer format, to imitate the type of situation in which you may find yourself at your demonstration.

It will familiarize you with the different types of plastics on the market and in our product line, and will spotlight the current research and concerns that the scientific community has called into question.

Before I begin, however, I want to caution you about your approach to your customers' concerns.

Our hostesses are the very heart of our businesses, and their guests represent the future of our businesses.

Be VERY CAREFUL not to turn your customers' questions into a debate.

When someone asks a question, take to time to fully listen. Turn your attention and your body toward the person, and answer as completely as you can.

Address their concerns as completely as possible, but try to be brief, so that the flow of your demonstration can continue.

It is not necessary to dazzle your guests with endless information about raw materials and research studies. These issues can completely side track your show, and alienate future business. But it is helpful for your customers to know that you are aware of their concerns, and that Tupperware takes the quality and safety of their product very seriously.

Most importantly, NEVER ARGUE. Answer their questions and follow-up questions in a concise and friendly manner.

Always remember that people have the right to disagree, and we need to respect that. Our differences make us stronger. We may agree to disagree.

I would like to quickly review with you seven types of plastics used in consumer products, please refer to your handout.

The class system is set up to refer to the types of raw materials used to manufacture the products, and they also refer to the strength and density of the plastics.

Classes 1 & 2 are polyethylene and high density polyethylene. They are used for consumable product packaging. Class 1 plastic is used for water bottles, detergents and peanut butter. Class 2 plastics are for heavier consumables like milk jugs, bleach, detergents, shampoos and some plastic bags.

These plastics are intended for single use, and should then be recycled.

They have been known to leach into food products if they are reused over a long period of time, but they have not been linked to any specific health risks.

Neither of these plastics is used in the Tupperware line.

Class 3 plastic is Polyvinyl Chloride or PVC. It is used in cling wraps, oil bottles, detergents and other consumable products.

PVC uses a chemical called DEHA, which is a plastic softener. When this chemical is exposed to heat, it degrades into the food.

Scientists have linked DEHA exposure with negative effects on the liver, kidney and spleen, and have also linked it to problems with bone formation.

Scientists believe that it “may possibly” be a human carcinogenic affecting the liver. I highlight the words “may possibly” not to encourage doubt, but because they are the exact words used to describe the study.

Tupperware does not use Class 3 plastics in their line.

Class 4 plastics are made of Low Density Polyethylene. It is used for most plastic wraps and some bottles. It is one of the safest consumer plastics.

This is the plastic that Tupperware uses for most of its seals.

Class 5 plastics are made of Polypropylene. Widely considered the safest plastics, it is used in deli soup containers, syrup, yogurt, and clouded plastic products.

This is Tupperware's container plastic. It is used for Fridgesmarts, Impressions line, Lunch containers, Modular Mates, That's A Bowl, Wonderliers and nearly all of our various bowl sets.

Class 6 plastics are made of made of Polystyrene, which is used in Styrofoam food trays, egg cartons, disposable cups and bowls and carry out containers.

Scientists have linked styrene to neurological toxicity problems for workers with longer-term exposure. Animal studies link styrene to various organ problems, as well.

Tupperware does not use Class 6 plastics.

Class 7 plastics are made of Polycarbonate. Polycarbonate plastics are the densest and most heat resistant plastics. They are often transparent. They are used to transport 5-gallon water bottles and sport water bottles. They are used in transparent sippy cups.

Class 7 plastics use a raw material called Bisphenol A or BPA. BPA is found in hundreds of household products. When exposed to heat, it has been known to leach into food supplies. BPA mimics the human hormone estrogen. BPA exposure is widespread throughout the population

Scientists are concerned that early life exposure to BPA may cause genetic damage to humans.

Studies have proven that BPA exposure causes chromosomal errors in mice. But the international scientific community has concluded in that "BPA lacks mutogenic or genotoxic activity relevant to humans".

Of the 126 studies conducted, 102 studies have connected BPA with a variety of health complaints. Twenty-four (24) of the studies have found no evidence of health problems associated with BPA.

Many of the initial studies conducted have not produced repeatable results, as is required for all valid scientific testing.

Tupperware uses Class 7 plastics in their Rock-n-Serve and Heat-n-Serve products. It is also present in their Ice Prism lines.

Tupperware plastics are made at the highest quality level. A level unmatched by any other plastics manufacturer.

Tupperware uses no Class 7 plastics in their Childrens' product line.

Tupperware has submitted to all Government testing requests between 1994 and 2008. Tupperware has been found to meet and to exceed all government safety standards for food contact applications, in all of its product classes.

Our Class 7 plastics have been **deemed safe for use in the microwave and the freezer when used as instructed** by the following agencies:

THE U.S. FDA

THE U.S. NATIONAL TOXICOLOGY PROGRAM

EUROPEAN UNION Commission's Scientific Committee on Food

JAPANESE MINISTRY FOR HEALTH, LABOR AND WELFARE

UNITED KINGDOM FOOD STANDARDS AGENCY

Common questions:

- Q. Questions about information passed over the internet regarding safety, are Tupperware products proven safe.
- Q. Questions regarding polycarbonate plastics and health effects.
- Q. Questions regarding baby bottles and food services.
- Q. Questions regarding storage and freezer safety.
- Q. Questions regarding reproductive effects of BPA.
- Q. Questions regarding the safety of plastics in the microwave.
- Q. Questions regarding migration of materials into food supply.