

# INFORMATION BULLETIN

**SUBJECT:** Typical Consumer Questions:  
Professional LYSOL® Brand  
Toilet Bowl Cleaner

**SECTION:** I  
**NUMBER:** 17  
**DATE:** 6/1/03

**Professional LYSOL® Brand Toilet Bowl Cleaner**  
**EPA Reg. No. 777-81-675**

- Q:** *Can this product be used on stainless steel toilets and urinals?*  
**A:** Our label states the product is for use on vitreous china bowls and urinals. Since there are many different grades of stainless steel, the unit manufacturer would have to be consulted to determine if they recommend the use of a 9.5% hydrochloric acid bowl cleaner on their surfaces.
- Q:** *Why did the product turn my chrome fixtures gray/black?*  
**A:** The product label clearly states that the product is for vitreous china only. The acid attacks the chrome plate causing the black color. It is not to be applied to the outside of the bowl or urinal where it can contact other type surfaces.
- Q:** *The product leaked out and stained my plastic laminate counter?*  
**A:** The acid content in the product will in many cases instantly remove the color from plastic laminates. Keep in mind, the label warns against using or placing on counter surfaces. With these types of surfaces there is typically no restorative means to restore the product color.
- Q:** *Does this product kill c. difficile (c dif)?*  
**A:** No. Clostridium difficile is a spore forming bacteria that can pose severe infection control problems in healthcare facilities. A spore forming bacteria can enter its spore state which is basically a protective shield that will allow an organism to survive extremes of heat and cold until growth conditions are again ideal. An infected patient can suffer severe gastrointestinal problems including diarrhea. Housekeeping procedures in a bathroom contaminated with the organism must include wearing proper personal protective equipment, through physical cleaning and the use of disinfectant cleaners.

**Q: *What are the ingredients in Professional LYSOL® Brand Toilet Bowl Cleaner?***

A: The ingredients in Professional LYSOL® Brand Toilet Bowl Cleaner are water, detergent, thickener, colorant and fragrance. The active ingredient is Hydrogen Chloride (Hydrochloric Acid).

**Q: *What is the purpose of each of these ingredients?***

A: Active Ingredient:

Hydrogen Chloride (Hydrochloric Acid): Disinfects, acts as rust, stain and mineral remover.

Inactive Ingredients:

Water: Carrier for balance of product ingredients.

Detergent: Breaks up and suspends fatty soils. Aids the soil penetrating properties of both the water and hydrochloric acid.

Thickener: Aids surface adherence and application control.

Colorant: Adds product appeal and recognition.

Fragrance: Deodorizes.

**Q: *Why is so much of the product made up of inert ingredients?***

A: The “active” ingredients are those ingredients that are EPA registered. They are considered to “prevent, destroy, repel or mitigate any pest” (in this case, “pests” are germs). “Inert” ingredients are still very important in the product. They do not, however, have to be registered with the EPA.

**Q: *Is there any ammonia in the product?***

A: No.

**Q: *What should I do if Professional LYSOL® Brand Toilet Bowl Cleaner is spilled on a carpet or other porous surface?***

A: It is important to flush immediately with excessive amounts of water. Always remember to blot toward the center of the stain to ensure that it does not spread. Be sure to wear gloves when cleaning up a product spill. Unfortunately, if the product has been removed and a color change is evident, there is usually no remedy for this damage.

**Q: *Is there any remedy to remove the products from surfaces that they are spilled on accidentally?***

A: Unfortunately, there is no definite remedy to cure accidental spills that occur with Professional LYSOL® Brand Toilet Bowl Cleaner. The product contains hydrochloric acid, it is most probable that the product has etched or burned the surface it has come in contact with. For this reason, our products are labeled very specifically, stating you should not place it on counter tops, etc. It is possible that using Zud will restore the original appearance, the results of this, however, depend on the surface damaged, the amount of product spilled and the length of time elapsed before cleaning. Sprinkling the area with Baking Powder (Sodium Bicarbonate) will neutralize the HCL.

**Q: *What types of plumbing is this product safe for use in?***

A: The product is safe for all types of plumbing, including plastic.

**Q: *Can I use the product in a colored toilet?***

A: Professional LYSOL® Brand Toilet Bowl Cleaner is safe for use in white or colored toilets.

**Q: *What is the shelf life of Professional LYSOL® Brand Toilet Bowl Cleaner?***

A: Professional LYSOL® Brand Toilet Bowl Cleaner will remain completely effective for at least two years. Although the efficacy of the product will last for years (five+), the scent may diminish more quickly.

**Q: *How do I know how old Professional LYSOL® Brand Toilet Bowl Cleaner is? How do I read the lot code?***

A: The lot code on the back of the container identifies when and where the product was manufactured. For example, a lot code of B9048-NJ2-1352-L-3 would be read as follows:

The letter “B” represents where the product was manufactured.

The next number, “9” represents the year – in this case 1999.

The following 3 digits is the Julian date - 048; that is the 48th day of the year or February 17, 1999.

**Q: *What is the pH of Professional LYSOL® Brand Toilet Bowl Cleaner?***

A: The pH level is less than 1.

**Q: *Is the product safe for septic systems?***

A: Professional LYSOL® Brand Toilet Bowl Cleaner will not have a harmful effect on septic systems. The degradability and dilution factors are such that the product does not adversely effect the bacterial action of the septic system.

**Q: *Is the product safe for use with a cesspool?***

A: Yes, cesspools and septic tanks are very similar. A product safe for septic systems is safe for cesspools.

### **Environmental Concerns**

**Q: *Can the container be recycled?***

A: The container is recyclable, and is manufactured using High Density Polyethylene, (HDPE). It's number designation is 2.

## **Product Efficacy**

**Q: *Is Professional LYSOL® Brand Toilet Bowl Cleaner a disinfectant?***

A: Yes.

**Q: *What is Professional LYSOL® Brand Toilet Bowl Cleaner effective against?***

A: Professional LYSOL® Brand Toilet Bowl Cleaner is EPA registered (EPA Reg. No. 777-81-675) against the following organisms:

### **Viruses**

HIV-1 (AIDS Virus)  
Poliovirus Type 1  
Hepatitis A Virus  
Rotovirus

### **Bacteria**

Salmonella Choleraesuis  
Staphylococcus aureus  
Pseudomonas aeruginosa  
Escherichia coli  
Shigella dysenteriae  
Enterococcus (Streptococcus faecalis)  
Klebsiella pneumoniae