Cosmetic testing on animals
Many everyday products—like toothpaste, mascara and shampoo—are still tested on animals. We’re working to end this cruelty and promote the use of humane alternatives backed by science.

1998: UK bans animal testing for cosmetic products and ingredients.


2007: Israel bans the use of animals to test cosmetic products and ingredients.

2010: OECD approves alternatives for dermal irritation.

2011: EU ban on animal testing of cosmetic ingredients and sale of cosmetic products and ingredients newly tested on animals for all but a few test areas goes into effect.

January 2013: Israel implements a prohibition on the sale of all cosmetics that have been newly tested on animals.

January 2014: São Paulo becomes the first of four states in Brazil to ban cosmetic animal testing for products and ingredients.

May 2014: India bans cosmetic animal testing for products and ingredients.

November 2014: India bans import of newly animal-tested cosmetics.

March 2015: New Zealand bans cosmetic animal testing for finished products and ingredients intended exclusively for use in cosmetics.

June 2015: The Humane Cosmetics Act, legislation to prohibit the production and sale of animal-tested cosmetics, is reintroduced in the US.

September 2015: Brazilian senator proposes amendments to cosmetics bill to include ban on animal-tested ingredients and the sale of newly animal-tested cosmetics.

December 2015: South Korea passes law to partially ban the manufacture and sale of newly animal-tested cosmetic products and ingredients where government-recognized alternatives exist.

February 2016: The Ethical Cosmetics Bill to end the production and sale of newly animal-tested cosmetics and cosmetic ingredients is introduced in the Australian House.

October 2016: Taiwan bans cosmetic animal testing for finished products and ingredients (effective 2019).

2004: EU passes law phasing out the production and sale of animal-tested cosmetics.

2006: OECD approves alternative for dermal corrosivity.

2009: OECD approves alternatives for ocular toxicity.

2010: Israel passes law to phase out sale of newly animal-tested cosmetics.

2012: OECD approves alternative for ocular toxicity.

March 2013: EU full sales ban on newly animal-tested cosmetics takes effect. Norway also bans cosmetic animal testing and the sale of newly animal-tested cosmetics.

March 2014: The End Cruel Cosmetics Bill is launched by the Green Party in Australia to ban cosmetic animal testing and the sale of newly animal-tested cosmetics.

June 2014: China implements rule to remove mandatory animal testing for non-special use cosmetics manufactured within China.

2015: OECD approves alternatives for allergic contact dermatitis.

April 2015: Taiwan introduces legislation to ban cosmetic animal testing and the sale of newly animal-tested ingredients.

July 2015: Turkey bans any animal testing for cosmetic products and ingredients where a validated alternative exists, effective January 2016.

September 2015: Russia introduces bill to phase out the use of animal testing for cosmetic products and ingredients where validated alternatives exist.

December 2015: The Cruelty-Free Cosmetics Act, legislation to ban cosmetic animal testing and the sale of newly animal-tested cosmetics, is reintroduced in Canada.

June 2016: Australia’s federal government announces its commitment to ban cosmetic animal testing and the sale of newly animal-tested cosmetics by July, 2017.

December 2016: Switzerland passes an ordinance to ban the sale of newly animal-tested cosmetics (effective May 2017).
Progress on cosmetic animal testing
The number of countries with laws that limit or ban cosmetic testing is on the rise—and so are the number of internationally recognized, non-animal methods approved for testing cosmetic products and ingredients.

#BeCrueltyFree

#BeCrueltyFree is the leading global campaign to end animal testing for cosmetics. The Humane Society of the United States and the Humane Society Legislative Fund are working in the U.S., and Humane Society International and others are working across Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Japan, Taiwan and elsewhere to:

- Change laws to end the production and sale of newly animal tested cosmetics.
- Promote the development of non-animal tests and train regulators and companies in their use.
- Educate consumers about animal testing and how to shop cruelty-free.
- Work with companies to help them move away from animal testing and partner with cruelty-free companies to lobby for change.
- Build an unstoppable global campaign backed by the public, top companies, politicians and our celebrity friends, including Jenna Dewan-Tatum, Ricky Gervais, Sir Paul McCartney, Michael Vartan, Kesha and Colbie Caillat.

For more information, go to humanesociety.org/cosmeticstimeline.