



Melaleuca Alterniflora (Tea Tree) Leaf Oil

Your patch tests indicate that you have a contact allergy to Melaleuca Alterniflora (tea tree) Leaf Oil. This means that you should avoid contact with all products containing tea tree oil in the future.

Tea tree oil comes from the leaves of the tea tree, *Melaleuca alternifolia*. It is known to have antiseptic properties and is therefore used as an oil to treat skin and nail infections as well as being added to some consumer products such as shampoos. It can cause eczema/dermatitis if in contact with the skin or, if consumed, in a herbal drink/preparation.

If you are allergic to tea tree oil you may also have problems with similar natural plant-derived substances such as colophonium (pine tree rosin/resin), balsam of Peru/ *Myroxylon pereirae* (natural fragrances) or eucalyptus oil.

Tea tree may be found in some of the following types of product:

- Tea tree essential oil
- Cosmetics and toiletries e.g. shampoos, skin cleansers, shave lotions, wet wipes, soap, foot cream, sunburn treatments
- Laundry products and fabric softeners
- Nail products including antifungal lotions

The list of products containing this allergen may not be complete and does not always include items that may be available outside the UK. Always check the ingredient listing on the product, package or package insert. Ingredient listings may change over time.