

WHAT PHOSPHATE-FREE DETERGENTS MEAN TO YOU

Customers have noticed a white film or residue on their dishes, glassware, plastic items, utensils and tub interior.

PHOSPHATE-FREE (P-FREE) DETERGENTS

As of July 1, 2010, 17 states* passed laws limiting the amount of phosphorous (phosphates) in household dishwasher detergents to no more than 0.5 percent. Previous detergents contained up to 8.7 percent.

Major manufacturers have reformulated their dishwasher detergents for the entire United States.

WHY THE BAN

- Phosphates are difficult to remove in waste water at sewage treatment plants. They're then discharged into rivers, lakes, streams and drinking water reservoirs where they cause environmental harm
- In freshwater, phosphates boost algae growth, which consume all the oxygen, ultimately killing the fish and plants

WHAT ARE PHOSPHATES

- They're chemical additives in detergents that act as a cleaning agent helping to remove stains, break down grease and prevent spotting
- During washing, phosphates suspend food particles so they don't stick to dishes. Plus, they soften water allowing suds to form for cleaning

***Did You Know:** Phosphates have been limited in laundry detergents since 1994. The change in dishwasher detergents is another step in the eco-conscious awareness found in today's products and the eco-friendly choices consumers are making.*

ECO-FRIENDLY CHANGE IN DETERGENTS MAY CAUSE WHITE FILM ON DISHES

- Detergents without phosphates may leave a white film or residue on dishes, glassware, plastic items, utensils, even the dishwasher tub
- When customers see this white film this can lead them to doubt or blame their dishwasher's cleaning performance

Note: If a customer notices a white film, it can be assumed that the phosphate-free detergent is the problem. This film is a mineral buildup and not etching as a result of too much detergent.



Before

After: Spatula was washed 14 times with phosphate-free detergent in hard water, leaving white film residue.

WAYS TO HELP REDUCE WHITE FILM BUILDUP

- Tablets and Pacs perform better than powder, liquid or gel detergents** Below is a list of top-performing, phosphate-free detergents
- To minimize a repeat buildup of the white film, use a rinse aid
- This issue is more frequent in homes with hard water. Dishwashers with built-in water softener systems are available in the market to soften the water and help reduce the white film

A LEADING CONSUMER MAGAZINE RATES PHOSPHATE-FREE DETERGENTS**

PRODUCT	TYPE	OVERALL CLEANING RATING
1. Finish® Quantum™	Tablets	Recommended buy
2. Finish® All in 1 Powerball® Tabs	Tablets	Best buy
3. Cascade® Complete All in 1 ActionPacs™	Pacs	Recommended buy
4. Cascade® with Dawn® ActionPacs™	Pacs	Recommended buy