

# What Your Home Haz: A Household Hazardous Waste Game

## Hazardous Wastes? Not in my home...

Your home and garage may seem safe, but take a look around. If you see any of these types of products, your house may contain potentially hazardous materials:

- Paints and solvents
- Pesticides
- Household cleaners
- Automotive products
- Arts and hobby supplies

This “Jeopardy-style” game helps players evaluate their knowledge of household hazardous waste facts and think about the consequences of their personal lifestyle choices.

## Materials needed

- A chalkboard or large sheet of paper
- The list of questions
- A bell or another way for teams to signal that they have an answer.

## Instructions:

1. **On chalkboard or a large pad of paper set up a gameboard following the format of the TV show, *Jeopardy*** (see Table 1). The categories are: Daily Living, Health Effects, and Safer Substitutes. Write the category headings across the top and then the question values, 10 to 50 points, down the side for each category.
2. **Divide the group into two teams and have them select a team name. Toss a coin to determine which team begins**  
The beginning team selects a category and point value. (Read a question for that category and point value (see Game Questions). Members of a team may confer before answering a question.
3. **The first team to signal gives its answer to the question**  
If the answer is incorrect, the team loses that point value. Then the other team is given a chance to provide the correct answer. You may set a time limit for answers.
4. **When a correct answer is given, write the team’s name on that space.**  
Add the points to the team's score. The player who answered correctly selects the next category and point value. Continue until all the questions on the game board have been selected or your time runs out. You may direct players who provide correct answers to sit out from the game so that all players have an opportunity to answer a question.
5. **The team with the most points wins.**

**Table 1**

Sample gameboard format

Daily Living	Health Effects	Safer Substitutes
10	10	10
20	20	20
30	30	30
40	40	40
50	50	50

## Game questions

### Daily living

10 pts

**What household product may work by deadening your nasal nerve endings so you can not smell?**

*Air fresheners.*

20 pts

**Name two hazardous products often found in our homes.**

*Accept all reasonable answers.*

30 pts

**You have some leftover window cleaner. What should you do with it?**

*Use it up, give it to someone who can use it, or flush down the drain with plenty of water.*

40 pts

**Name three words found on product labels that indicate a product is hazardous.**

*Danger, poison, warning, caution, irritant, caustic, flammable, combustible, radioactive, or explosive.*

50 pts

**It is your turn to clean the stubborn stain in the bathtub. Why should you never add ammonia to strengthen the power of the chlorine-based scouring powder you are using?**

*Ammonia plus chlorine produces a poisonous gas.*

### Health effects

10 pts

**How can you protect your eyes from splashes when pouring hazardous liquids like bleach?**

*Wear protective goggles.*

20 pts

**How can you protect yourself when using toxic products that are absorbed through the**

**skin, such as organic solvents?**

*Wear gloves and protective clothing.*

**30 pts**

**Name three ways toxic substances can enter your body.**

*Inhalation, ingestion, skin contact, and skin absorption.*

**40 pts**

**Name two of the actions you should take when the directions on a product label instruct you to avoid breathing vapors.**

*Work outdoors, open a window, have a fan blowing the vapors away from you, or wear a respirator.*

**50 pts**

**You need to buy some laundry soap and you notice that the label of one brand reads "nontoxic." What is the federal regulatory definition of nontoxic?**

*None, nontoxic is an advertising word.*

### **Safer substitutes**

**10 pts**

**What safe bathroom product can be used to clean and polish gold?**

*Toothpaste.*

**20 pts**

**You are cooking a hamburger and the grease catches on fire. What common kitchen product could you use to put out the fire?**

*Baking soda or table salt.*

**30 pts**

**You painted your room using latex paint. What solvent will you use to clean your brushes and you?**

*Water.*

**40 pts**

**Name two common kitchen products that can be used in safe household cleaners.**

*Includes baking soda, salt, vinegar, cream of tartar, club soda, lemon juice.*

**50 pts**

**Name a common Missouri tree that produces large fruits that can be used to repel cockroaches.**

*Osage Orange, also known as hedge apple or Bois d'arc.*

Resource: WM5001 What Your Home Haz: A Household Hazardous Waste Game. University of Missouri Extension.