



**RANGE
PRODUCTS**

RAW MATERIALS

GLYCERINE

Glycerine is a natural substance present in animal and vegetable fats. It is usually obtained as a by-product of soap making. It is syrupy in consistency, colourless, odourless, sticky and sweet. If used in small proportions in lotions, creams and toners it acts as an antibacterial, softener, lubricant and humectant (holding moisture in the skin). If more than 20% is used in any recipe it will have the opposite effect and draw water from the skin. Adding a little glycerine to colognes gives a soft feeling to an after-shower splash. Range Products only stock a Vegetable derived Glycerine option.

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MINERAL OIL/LIQUID PARAFFIN OIL

It is used extensively by cosmetic companies in cleanser, moisture creams and lotions because it's cheap, hypoallergenic and is completely inert, which gives it indefinite shelf life. If used alone it remains on the surface of the skin but once incorporated in an emulsion it is absorbed into the skin in the same way as other oils. The only advantage is that it doesn't go rancid. Many books on natural cosmetics state that mineral oil 'leaches the vitamins from the skin'. This is not strictly accurate. All oils used both internally and externally will collect fat soluble vitamins (A, D, E, K) as they travel through the body, but natural oils are then absorbed through the intestines, hence the vitamins aren't lost. Mineral oil isn't absorbed into the intestinal wall and the oil is excreted, along with the vitamins.

TINCTURE OF BENZOIN

An alcoholic tincture made from resin extracted from the bark of *Styrax benzoin*. The tincture may be used to help preserve creams, lotions and ointments. As it is antibacterial, antiseptic and antifungal it may also be used as a topical application for eczema, blackheads, boils, pimples and itching.