



# Fact Sheet

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## What is Hydrogen Peroxide?

Hydrogen peroxide ( $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ ) is a clear liquid which is slightly thicker and denser than water but mixes very well with water. Hydrogen peroxide (3% solution) is frequently used for disinfecting and cleaning. It has a faint odor and is generally a noncombustible liquid.

Hydrogen peroxide is commercially available at varying concentrations. Some applications call for weak hydrogen peroxide solutions of 10% or less. Specialty applications of hydrogen peroxide use technical grade concentrations ranging from 35% purity. In general, the higher the concentration of hydrogen peroxide, the more likely it will react with oxygen and cause other materials to ignite and burn. The Department of Transportation (DOT) regulates all hydrogen peroxide solutions containing 8% or greater by weight as hazardous materials.

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