

Main Toxins in Pencils

Lead: neurotoxin that causes learning disabilities, behavioral problems and sometimes death

Cadmium: carcinogen linked to lung cancer

Chromium: irritant that causes skin allergies and respiratory problems

Toxins in Pencil Erasers

Hydroxylamine: skin irritant

Phthalic Acid Esters (PAEs): linked to liver and kidney damage and sexual precocity, hormonal imbalance and neurological disorders

Toxins in the Aluminum Band on Pencils

Mercury: corrosive to eyes, skin, kidneys and lungs and impairs neurological development

Main Toxins in Pens

Phthalate Plasticizers: linked to birth defects, reproductive harm, and cancer