COLOPHONY

*also called…***rosin**, **resin**, **gum rosin**, **wood rosin**, **tall oil**, **colophonium**, **pine rosin**, **resin terebinthinae**, and **rosin gum***.*

Its many components go by the names abietic acid, abietyl alcohol, abitol, dehydroabietic acid, dihydroabietic acid, methyl abietate alcohol, glyceryl abietate, triethylene glycol rosinate, and glyceryl hydrogenated rosinate. Modified colophony may appear under trade names like Staybelite[R], Hercolyne[R], Pentalyn[R], and Abitol[R].

What is it?

Colophony is a colorless sticky substance derived from tree sap, especially pine.

Where might it be found?

Adhesive tape, bandages
Medicated plaster, wart tape
Collodion, Opsite
Hydrocolloid dressings, e.g.
    DuoDERM CGF, Granuflex
Ostomy appliances
Medicated first-aid ointments
Cold sore, fever blister cream
Hemorrhoid cream
Chinese medicines
Glazing agent for pills
Dental floss, dental cement
Dental impression paste
Dental temporary prosthesis
Root canal antiseptic, sealant
Fluoride tooth varnish
Periodontal dressing
Chewing gum
Depilatory, hair removal wax
Cosmetics: mascara, lipstick,
  powder, eye shadow, bindi,
  nail polish, concealer, blush
Hair spray, pomade
Sunscreen
Disposable diapers
Sanitary napkins
Transparent or yellow bar soap
Laundry soap, prewash
Grease remover for clothes
Fabric sizing
Marking pen ink
Ceramic ink
Printing ink
Modeling clay

Tissue, newsprint, paper pulp, paper sizing
Cardboard, recycled paper products
Magazine glossy paper, photo paper, price labels
Cigarette filters and paper
Postage stamp adhesive, sticker adhesive
Rubber cement, glue, mastic, sealing wax
Glue for shoe, boot, and slipper insoles and soles
Linoleum, floor tile, and carpet adhesive
Electrical or thermal insulating tape, jointing tape
Sticky flypaper, fly strips
Rosin for ballet, flamenco, boxer shoes
Rosin for violin, viola, cello, bass violin
Grip aid for baseball pitcher, bat rosin
Grip aid for bowling, bull riding rope and gloves
Grip aid for golf club, tennis racket
Grip aid for gymnasts, rock climbers
Ski wax
Leather cleaner and lubricant
Pine oil cleaner, pine/spruce sawdust, pine pencil
Firewood, pitch, match tips, fireworks
Paints, lacquers, varnishes, rustproof coating
Waterproofing surface coating, brewery pitch
Furniture and floor polishes and stains
Shoe polish, shoe wax
Car wax, metal polish, gasket shellac
Plasticizer for rubber or fabric, oil cloth
Asphalt products, tire compounding, reclaiming
Caulk, putty, wood filler, construction gap filler
Soldering flux, soldering agent, joint compound
Corrosion inhibitor, office machine lubricant
Cutting fluid, cutting oil, core oil, tall oil
Axle grease, lubricant thickener
Machine belt tackifier in industry
Veterinary hoof salve, diuretic, dog repellant
Coffee bean polish   *(continued)*

How to avoid colophony:

Use only products that do <u>not contain colophony</u> or any of the related names listed above. Check the ingredient label of each product used at home. To look for exposure at work, check the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) and complete ingredient list of every product you encounter there. If you are not able to find an ingredient list, contact the manufacturer of the item, or search websites like http://householdproducts.nlm.nih.gov and http://www.cosmeticsdatabase.com.

When handling paper, protect hands by wearing cotton gloves.
Wear latex, nitrile, or vinyl gloves for household cleaning or repair.

<u>For alternatives to colophony or rosin:</u>

- To increase friction, try chalk or ZeaSorb Powder.
- Instead of Scotch or other reactive tape, use Elmer's Glue-All.
- Colophony-free tapes include Dermicel, Micropore, Scanpor, and BandAid Sheer Strips.
- For hydrocolloid dressing, use *Original* DuoDERM wound dressing or flexible collodion USP.
- Instead of epilating wax, use depilatory creams or lotions, or sugar wax.
- Cloth diapers and pads from www.diaperware.com and www.allnaturalmamas.com should be safe.

Note: Cross-reactions can occur with balsam of Peru, fragrances, oils, spices, turpentine, and chrysanthemum family plants. Ask your doctor if you should avoid these.