



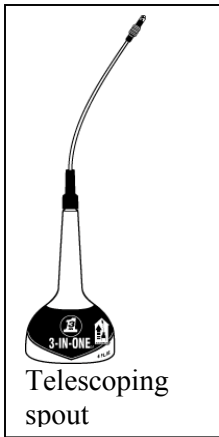
Respiratory Hazards and Spray Lubricants

Why should I use a non-spray lubricant?

Common spray lubricants such as WD-40 are respiratory irritants that can aggravate existing asthma. Although all oil-based lubricants may cause respiratory irritation, using a non-spray lubricant will reduce the amount of product present in the air, which in turn will reduce how much you inhale.

How do I use a non-spray lubricant?

Some lubricant brands are available with a long, narrow "telescoping" spout, or "zoom-spout," which can apply lubricant in tight areas. In other cases, you can buy a can of lubricant and use a cloth to wipe it directly onto the surface.



Can I use a non-spray lubricant for everything?

There may be some situations where a spray lubricant is needed. In such cases, buying lubricant in bulk and using refillable spray bottles instead of aerosol sprays can reduce greenhouse gas emissions and eliminate the need to dispose of used aerosol cans as hazardous waste.

When using aerosols, be sure to use the small round tube that fits on the aerosol spout to focus the spray only where it is needed. Also, make sure to use the spray lubricant only where necessary.

What about bio-based lubricants?

Using bio-based lubricants, which are made from vegetable-based oils instead of petroleum, further reduces health and environmental risks. Bio-based lubricants are generally biodegradable and will not contribute to the buildup of toxic chemicals in the environment, whereas petroleum lubricants generally contain persistent, toxic substances that will not break down if there is a spill or accident.

There are no studies comparing the respiratory risk of bio-based spray lubricants versus petroleum-based lubricants. Therefore, the use of non-spray applicators even with bio-based lubricants may be advisable.

Where can I buy non-spray lubricants?

Non-spray lubricants are generally available wherever spray lubricants are sold. Speak to your supplier to find out if the same product you are currently using in a spray container is available with a telescoping spout or in an alternative form.