DEODORANTS VS. ANTIPERSPIRANTS

Deodorants and antiperspirants both help fight body odour – but they both do so in different ways. This graphic takes a look at what each of them do to prevent body odour, how they do it, and some of the different chemical compounds that they employ to keep you from smelling terrible!

**DEODORANTS**

Deodorants help to reduce body odour by targeting the bacteria under your arms that produce the various bad-smelling compounds. Some do this using anti-bacterial compounds such as triclosan. Both deodorants and antiperspirants often use cyclomethicones, which are fast-drying silicone compounds, as solvents.

**ANTIPERSPIRANTS**

Antiperspirants fight body odour by cutting down on sweating. They do this by including aluminium or zirconium-based compounds that form a polymeric plug that physically blocks perspiration from being able to escape sweat glands. This plug slowly breaks down over time, so reapplication can be required.

**TRICLOSAN**

Antibacterial compound
Another commonly used antimicrobial compound is chlorhexidine.

**CYCLOMETHICONES**

Solvent compounds
*e.g.* cyclopentasiloxane
More common than alcohol solvents, which can also be used. Compounds such as sodium benzoate are also present to act as a preservative and help to extend the shelf life of the product.

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