

# Sun Shield

2-IN-1, SECOND TO NONE.

Defend against environmental stressors and premature aging while locking in hydration for soft, resilient skin with this multitasking 2-in-1 matte mineral sunscreen and moisturizer.



# When Sun Care Stops Short

Daily exposure to environmental stressors like UV rays, pollution, and oxidative stress can accelerate visible signs of aging, weaken the skin's natural defenses, and disrupt moisture balance. Sunscreen is essential, but many formulas fail to provide hydration or support long-term skin health.

Most conventional sunscreens rely on chemical UV filters that can irritate the skin, clog pores, or cause sensitivity. Some ingredients also raise health and environmental concerns. There's a clear need for a gentle, mineral-based option that protects while also nourishing the skin, supporting the barrier, and maintaining comfort and balance throughout the day.

# **Double Duty, Done Right**

Defend against environmental stressors and premature skin aging while locking in hydration for soft, resilient skin with **Sun Shield.** This 2-in-1 mineral sunscreen and moisturizer features an innovative blend, where gentle zinc oxide and powerful plant stem cells shield against the visibly damaging effects of daily external aggressors while skin-nourishing squalane infuses weightless moisture. The carefully balanced formula works to reinforce skin's natural moisture barrier, promote healthy microbiome balance, and deliver a natural matte finish.

# **Primary Benefits**

- Defends against sun damage with broad-spectrum SPF 30 protection that deflects deep-penetrating UVA and surface-burning UVB rays for healthier looking skin over time.
- Shields from environmental stressors and neutralizes free radicals that can accelerate premature skin aging, preserving natural vitality.
- Delivers deep, lasting hydration to maintain a noticeably plump, supple complexion.
- Strengthens and reinforces the protective moisture barrier to keep skin balanced and resilient.

- Boosts overall skin health, supporting a smooth, even, and revitalized appearance.
- Soothes and calms, leaving a soft, matte finish without greasiness.

# **Primary Features**

- Formulated with zinc oxide, a gentle mineral sunscreen that offers powerful protection from sun damage, helping decrease the risk of sunburn, skin cancer, and premature aging.
- Hydrates and reinforces skin with a blend of hyaluronic acid, ceramides, and squalane to lock in moisture and prevent dryness.
- Shields against the visibly damaging effects of free radicals and pollution with powerful antioxidants and plant stem cells to enhance resilience and combat visible signs of aging for firmer-looking skin with less noticeable wrinkles.
- Supports a healthy microbiome with prebiotics that nourish beneficial microorganisms and maintain skin balance.
- Non-greasy matte cream offers generous coverage and works seamlessly under makeup, doubling as a primer.
- Kind-to-Biome certified formula undergoes rigorous testing to maintain healthy skin microbiome balance — supporting beneficial bacteria, discouraging problematic microbes, and preserving essential microbial diversity.
- Dermatologist tested for gentleness and suitable for all skin types.
- Non-comedogenic formula doesn't clog pores for clear, breathable skin.
- Cruelty-free\*, non-GMO, hypoallergenic, and free from fragrances, harsh surfactants, phthalates, parabens, and other potentially irritating ingredients, including SLS and SLES.



#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

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**UVA rays** — the main cause of premature skin aging — can penetrate glass, meaning you still need SPF even when you're indoors near a window.<sup>1</sup>

Zinc oxide is one of the only FDA-approved sunscreen ingredients that provides strong protection across the full UVA and UVB spectrum on its own. Unlike many chemical filters, it doesn't need stabilizers or combinations to offer broad-spectrum coverage, making it a go-to for sensitive skin and daily use.<sup>2,3</sup>

Hydrated skin has a stronger barrier function. When the skin barrier is intact and well-moisturized, it's better at preventing water loss and defending against environmental stressors like UV radiation and pollution.<sup>4</sup>

Hyaluronic acid can hold up to 1,000 times its weight in water. It helps visibly plump and hydrate skin by attracting and retaining moisture.<sup>5</sup>

#### Sources:

- 1. Skin Cancer Foundation. Published 2022.
- 2. Food & Drug Administration.
- Mitchnick MA, Fairhurst D, Pinnell SR. Microfine zinc oxide (Z-cote) as a photostable UVA/UVB sunblock agent. J Am Acad Dermatol. 1999 Jan;40(1):85–90. doi: 10.1016 s01909622(99)70532-3. PMID: 9922017.
- 4. Baker P, Huang C, Radi R, Moll SB, Jules E, Arbiser JL. Skin Barrier Function: The Interplay of Physical, Chemical, and Immunologic Properties. Cells. 2023 Nov 30;12(23):2745. doi: 10.3390/cells12232745. PMID: 38067173; PMCID: PMCI0706187
- 5. Harvard Health. Published 2020.

# **Frequently Asked Questions**

### Is Sun Shield suitable for all skin types?

Yes! Our formulations are designed to be gentle, effective, and non-irritating for all skin types.

# How do I apply Sun Shield?

Apply three to four pumps onto the face and neck, massaging thoroughly until absorbed. Use as the last step in your morning skincare routine.

Are there any tips to reduce potential white cast?

Try warming it up first. Rub Sun Shield between your hands before applying — this helps the formula spread more evenly and absorb more quickly, reducing the appearance of any white cast and giving you a smoother finish.

### Can this replace my make-up primer?

Yes! Once absorbed fully, Sun Shield doesn't clog pores and delivers a smooth, hydrated base that creates an even canvas for makeup while providing powerful SPF protection.

# Why do you use zinc oxide instead of chemical sunscreen filters?

We use zinc oxide because it offers broad-spectrum sun protection while aligning with our clean formulation standards. Unlike chemical filters, which absorb UV rays and can sometimes irritate the skin or raise health and environmental concerns, zinc oxide sits on the skin's surface and reflects UV rays. It's a gentle, effective mineral filter that's safe for sensitive skin and noncomedogenic.

### Is your zinc oxide non-nano?

Yes. We use non-nano zinc oxide, meaning the particles are not small enough to penetrate the skin. Instead, they sit on the surface, forming a physical barrier that reflects and scatters UV rays. This makes our SPF both effective and safe, supporting broad-spectrum protection without compromising skin integrity.

Can I use Sun Shield with my other Plexus® products? Yes! Sun Shield is designed to work seamlessly with the rest of the Plexus Skin Health System products, as well as our Skin Health Line add-ons, and is compatible with all Plexus products.

#### Can I use Sun Shield with my medication?

Sun Shield is formulated with hydrating, clean, nourishing ingredients — but it's always a good idea to speak with your healthcare provider or pharmacist before introducing any new skincare products. They can help ensure that the products are a good fit for your unique needs and any treatments you're currently using.

#### Should I still apply Sun Shield if I am indoors?

Yes! Even if you're not sunbathing or spending long hours outside, your skin is still exposed to UVA rays. Whether you're driving, sitting near a window, or simply walking to your car or into a building, these rays can still reach your skin and contribute to premature aging. Daily use of Sun Shield helps protect against this subtle, everyday damage while also defending your skin from environmental stressors and free radicals — all of which can speed up visible signs of aging.

# Is Sun Shield safe for pregnant or nursing women?

As with any new skincare product, we recommend consulting with your healthcare provider before starting use during pregnancy or while nursing. They can provide personalized advice to ensure the products are safe for you and your baby.

#### How should I store Sun Shield?

Keep in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight to maintain potency and texture.



#### INGREDIENT GLOSSARY

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Aloe Barbadensis Leaf Juice: A skin-soothing hydrator naturally rich in vitamins, minerals, and antioxidants. Known for its cooling feel, aloe helps calm visible irritation and replenish moisture, making it a go-to for comforting stressed or dry skin.

Argania Spinosa Sprout Cell Extract: This argan tree-derived extract supports vitality by rejuvenating skin stem cell activity while complementing natural renewal processes to reduce the visible signs of aging. Meanwhile, its antioxidant properties help defend skin from visible damage caused by environmental stressors while promoting a more radiant, youthful complexion.

**Butyloctyl Salicylate:** A multitasking ingredient that boosts the performance of UV filters and helps keep sunscreen formulas smooth and stable. It also adds a lightweight, silky touch, leaving skin feeling soft, not greasy.

C13-15 Alkane: A silky emollient that enhances the texture and spread of skincare products. It helps lock in moisture by reducing water loss, supporting smoother, more hydrated skin without a heavy feel.

Camellia Sinensis Leaf Extract: Packed with protective polyphenols, this antioxidant-rich extract helps defend the skin from environmental stressors. It's also known for its calming properties, making it a favorite in formulas for sensitive or aging skin.

**Carbomer:** A texture-boosting ingredient that gives products their smooth, gel-like feel. It works as a thickener and stabilizer, helping formulas stay consistent and easy to apply.

Ceramide Complex: A blend of skin-identical ceramides, cholesterol, and phytosphingosine that work together to strengthen the skin's moisture barrier and help keep it protected, smooth, and resilient.

- Ceramide AP (alpha-hydroxy phytosphingosine):
   A type of moisturizing fat that helps repair and strengthen the skin barrier, keeping it smooth and hydrated.
- Ceramide EOP (esterified omega-hydroxy phytosphingosine): A protective ceramide that helps lock in moisture and prevent water loss, keeping the skin barrier strong and healthy.
- Ceramide NP (non-hydroxy phytosphingosine):
  A skin-replenishing ceramide that supports the barrier and maintains hydration by replacing natural lipids lost over time.

Cholesterol: A naturally occurring lipid that helps skin

retain moisture. It works alongside ceramides to support the skin's protective barrier and improve hydration.

**Dicaprylyl Carbonate:** A feather-light emollient that absorbs quickly to create a soft, velvety finish. It improves how products glide on the skin, leaving it smooth and conditioned, never greasy.

**Disteardimonium Hectorite:** A multitasking ingredient that keeps products stable, smooth, and luxuriously textured. It helps prevent separation in formulas and supports the even distribution of active ingredients, especially in sunscreens.

**Ethylhexylglycerin:** A gentle skin conditioner that helps keep skin soft and hydrated. It also supports product freshness by enhancing the performance of preservatives in the formula.

**Fructose:** A naturally moisturizing sugar that draws water into the skin to support hydration and barrier function. It helps maintain a healthy moisture balance, leaving skin soft, supple, and comfortable.

HDI/Trimethylol Hexyllactone Crosspolymer: A film-forming ingredient that creates a smooth, soft-focus finish on the skin. It improves texture, boosts water resistance in sunscreens, and helps evenly disperse active ingredients for more stable, effective formulas.

**Hydrolyzed Sodium Hyaluronate:** A humectant known for delivering deep hydration. By drawing moisture into the skin, it helps maintain plumpness, improve elasticity, and reduce the appearance of fine lines and wrinkles.

**Inulin:** This prebiotic supports beneficial skin bacteria, helping to promote a balanced skin barrier. By nurturing the skin's microbiome, it contributes to a hydrated, smooth, and calm-looking complexion — ideal for dry or sensitive skin.

**Isomalt:** A sugar-derived humectant that attracts water to the skin, helping to boost hydration and support the skin's natural moisturizing factors. It contributes to a soft, smooth feel.

**Isononyl Isononanoate:** A silky, lightweight emollient that improves how skincare products spread and feel on the skin. It forms a breathable layer that helps lock in moisture and reduce water loss without any greasy residue.

Palmitoyl Tripeptide-37: A cutting-edge peptide studied to support the skin's natural renewal process, helping to promote a smoother, more refined appearance over time.



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**Pentylene Glycol:** A versatile ingredient that hydrates the skin by drawing in moisture while also helping preserve product freshness. It supports smooth application, improves ingredient absorption, and contributes to a soft, comfortable finish.

**Phospholipids:** Naturally occurring lipids that are key building blocks of cell membranes. In skincare, they help support the skin's barrier and improve moisture retention.

**Phytosphingosine:** A skin-identical lipid that helps reinforce the skin barrier, enhance hydration, and promote a healthy-looking complexion. It also helps soothe visible irritation and supports a balanced skin microbiome.

**Polyglyceryl-3 Polyricinoleate**: A plant-derived emulsifier that helps blend oil and water in skincare formulas. It improves texture and spreadability, creating a rich, smooth feel while also helping to evenly disperse pigments and sunscreen agents.

Polyglyceryl-4 Diisostearate/Polyhydroxystearate/Sebacate: A gentle, skin-compatible emulsifier that helps create stable, creamy formulations. It enhances the feel and glide of products, improving application without compromising skin comfort.

**Potassium Sorbate:** A mild, effective preservative that helps prevent the growth of mold, yeast, and bacteria — keeping your skincare products safe and stable over time. Known for being gentle on skin while maintaining formula integrity.

**Propanediol:** A naturally derived multitasker that draws moisture into the skin for improved softness and hydration. It also helps active ingredients absorb more effectively and supports formula stability with mild preservative-boosting properties.

Salvia Hispanica Seed Oil: A nutrient-rich oil packed with omega-3 fatty acids and antioxidants. It provides deep hydration, helps support the skin barrier, and nourishes visibly stressed or dry skin.

**Silica:** A lightweight mineral used to absorb excess oil and smooth the skin's appearance. It gives products a soft, silky feel and helps improve wear, making makeup and skincare apply more evenly.

**Sodium Acetylated Hyaluronate:** A powerful hydrator that attracts and holds moisture deep within the skin. It helps improve elasticity, smoothness, and lasting hydration by delivering moisture where skin needs it most.

**Sodium Benzoate:** A gentle preservative that helps prevent microbial growth, protecting formulas from spoilage and keeping products safe and effective over time.

**Sodium Chloride:** Also known as table salt, this ingredient helps control the thickness and texture of skincare formulas. It stabilizes emulsions and ensures a smooth, consistent application.

**Sodium Hyaluronate:** A water-soluble form of hyaluronic acid that deeply hydrates by attracting and retaining moisture. Its smaller molecular size allows it to penetrate the skin more effectively, improving elasticity and the look of fine lines — ideal for all skin types, including dry or sensitive.

**Sodium Hyaluronate Crosspolymer:** A long-lasting hydrator that forms a moisture-retaining mesh on the skin's surface. It gradually releases hydration over time, helping to smooth skin and support a strong, healthy barrier.

Sodium Lauroyl Lactylate: A gentle surfactant and emulsifier that helps keep oil and water blended in skincare formulas. It also hydrates and conditions the skin, helping to strengthen the moisture barrier and reduce water loss while offering mild antimicrobial support to enhance product freshness.

**Squalane:** A lightweight, skin-friendly emollient that mimics the skin's natural oils, helping to deliver deep, lasting hydration. It supports moisture retention, leaving skin to appear soft, smooth, and balanced without a greasy feel.

**Tetrasodium Glutamate Diacetate:** A stabilizing ingredient that binds to metal ions, preventing them from breaking down the formula over time. It helps maintain product integrity and supports the effectiveness of preservatives.

**Tocopherol:** A well-known antioxidant that helps protect the skin from environmental stress. It supports barrier function and contributes to smoother, healthier-looking skin.

**TriethoxycaprylyIsilane:** An ingredient that helps pigments blend more evenly and improves the water resistance of skincare and sun care formulas. It adds a silky texture and enhances smooth, long-lasting application.

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**Xanthan Gum:** A natural thickener and stabilizer that helps create smooth, consistent textures in skincare. It keeps formulas uniform and easy to apply.

Zinc Oxide: A mineral sunscreen that provides broadspectrum protection against UVA and UVB rays, offering gentle yet reliable defense ideal for daily use — even on sensitive skin. If you notice a slight white cast or it takes a few seconds to absorb, don't worry. Unlike chemical sunscreens that absorb UV radiation, zinc oxide offers a clean alternative, resting on the skin's surface to create a shield that deflects the sun's rays.



# **Drug Facts**

Active ingredient

Purpose

Zinc oxide 24%.....Sunscreen

#### Use:

■ Helps prevent sunburn ■ If used as directed with other sun protection measures (see *Directions*), decreases the risk of skin cancer and early skin aging caused by the sun

# Warnings

■ For external use only ■ Do not use on damaged or broken skin. ■ When using this product keep out of eyes. Rinse with water to remove. Stop use and ask a doctor if rash or irritation develops and lasts. ■ Keep out of reach of children. If swallowed, get medical help or contact a Poison Control Center right away.

#### **Directions**

- Apply liberally 15 minutes before sun exposure
- Reapply at least every 2 hours
- Use a water-resistant sunscreen if swimming or sweating
- Sun Protection Measures. Spending time in the sun increases your risk of skin cancer and early skin aging. To decrease the risk, regularly use sunscreen with a Broad Spectrum SPF value of 15 or higher and other sun protection measures including:
- Limit time in the sun, especially from 10 a.m. 2 p.m.
- Wear long-sleeved shirts, pants, hats, and sunglasses
- Children under 6 months: Ask a doctor

### Other Information

■ Protect this product from excessive heat and direct sun

# Inactive Ingredients

Water, Dicaprylyl Carbonate, Isononyl Isononanoate, C13-15 Alkane, Butyloctyl Salicylate, HDI/Trimethylol Hexyllactone Crosspolymer, Polyglyceryl-3 Polyricinoleate, Polyglyceryl-4 Diisostearate/Polyhydroxystearate/Sebacate, Propanediol, Silica, Palmitoyl Tripeptide-37, Sodium Hyaluronate, Sodium Acetylated Hyaluronate, Sodium Hyaluronate Crosspolymer, Hydrolyzed Sodium Hyaluronate, Argania Spinosa Sprout Cell Extract, Aloe Barbadensis Leaf Juice, Camellia Sinensis Leaf Extract, Salvia Hispanica Seed Oil, Squalane, Ceramide AP, Ceramide EOP, Ceramide NP, Cholesterol, Phospholipids, Phytosphingosine, Tocopherol, Inulin, Xanthan Gum, Isomalt, Fructose, Sodium Chloride, Triethoxycaprylylsilane, Sodium Lauroyl Lactylate, Tetrasodium Glutamate Diacetate, Carbomér, Pentylene Glycol, Disteardimonium, Hectorite, Ethylhexylglycerin, Potassium Sorbate, Sodium Benzoate

#### Questions?

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