

Permethrin Instructions

Northeast School of Botanical Medicine
7Song, Director
7Song.com

I prepared this solution before working at a first aid station in a heavily tick-infested area of northern Wisconsin. I did not get any ticks (I checked every night), while many other folks did. It is possible that I just got lucky, but I feel that using the permethrin on my clothes was beneficial.

Permethrin is toxic to ticks. They can crawl on you, but they will die when they come into contact with the permethrin.

Permethrin is poisonous to cats and fish. When preparing it, make sure any leftover solution is not added to the water supply. I keep the leftover solution in a well-stoppered, well-labeled jar to use again. I also hung up my clothes to dry in a safe area.

While it has a strong smell when it is initially prepared, it goes away entirely when dry. I had no rashes or ill effects from doing this.

You can purchase it in a dilute solution, but I chose to buy the concentrated solution and dilute it myself, as it is much less expensive.

There is a lot of good information online if you are considering preparing it yourself.

General Instructions

1. This is based on using a 36.8% permethrin concentrate to make a 0.5% solution, the recommended amount for clothing
2. Ingredients
 - Concentrated permethrin
 - Water
 - Bucket
 - Heavy-duty gloves
 - Clothes you want covered
 - A well-labeled jar or spray bottle for any leftover solution
3. Location
 - A place to soak and hang the clothes away from water sources, as it is poisonous to fish
 - It is also poisonous to cats, so keep it out of their reach
4. Wear heavy-duty gloves while mixing it.
5. Add 1¼ oz of concentrate per 1 gallon of water in a bucket
 - This bucket should be stored and only used for mixing permethrin.
6. Saturate the clothing completely with dilute permethrin
7. Wring out the extra solution
8. Hang out clothes in a safe place to dry.
9. Do not wash clothes after soaking
10. If you have any leftover, pour it into a well-labeled bottle to use later

Specific Instructions

1. Acquire all the above ingredients
2. Put gloves on
3. Mix 1¼ oz of concentrate per gallon of water in a bucket.
4. Add clothing, saturate them with the dilute solution
5. Wring out the excess solution, put in a safe place
6. Hang clothes until they are dry
7. Do not wash them; they are ready to go

More Notes

1. There are other ways to do this; some folks like to prepare their clothes in Ziploc bags. Check online for information about this.
2. Do not make it more concentrated to make it more effective; use the 0.5% solution.
3. Some people develop a rash. I have not seen this yet, but have read about it.
4. You can purchase the prepared solution and just spray it on clothes. It may not be quite as effective as soaking the clothes, but it is a lot easier.