# Why Your Clean Apps Disagree About Baby Wash

4 published scoring rules in 60 seconds, plus a 5-minute routine for the store aisle

This sheet doesn't list any app's scores. Scan the bottle yourself, then use these rules to work out **why** Yuka, EWG Skin Deep and Think Dirty disagree.

## 1 One worst ingredient vs. a weighted mix

- **Yuka:** the highest-risk ingredient sets the range. One red ingredient means under 25/100, and an orange one means under 50/100.[1,2]
- **Think Dirty:** by default, a product is rated no lower than its worst ingredient (some case-by-case exceptions).[5]
- **EWG:** the score is "not an average." It weighs evidence across 17 hazard categories.[3,4]

**So: find the ONE ingredient dragging each score down.**

## 2 The word "fragrance"

- **Think Dirty:** any product that lists "fragrance" is rated 7 or higher.[5]
- **EWG:** flags fragrance as "not fully identified," but as one input to its weighted score.[4]
- **Yuka:** scores fragrance like any other ingredient (we found no special rule).[1,2]

**So: read the list, not the front label. "Unscented" isn't always fragrance-free.**

## 3 Low score, thin data

- **EWG:** shows data availability (none to robust). Some ingredients score low "only because little research" exists.[3,4]
- **Think Dirty:** its lowest band includes "limited data."[5]

**So: a low hazard score with "limited" data is a weak green.**

## 4 Dose mostly isn't counted

- **EWG:** "does not account for exposure or individual susceptibility."[4]
- **Yuka:** doesn't "take into account the quantity" of ingredients.[6]
- **Think Dirty:** small amounts still count (an under-5% exception, case by case).[5]

**So: scores screen for hazards. They don't measure your baby's exposure.**

## The 5-minute referee routine

1. **Read the label:** look for fragrance/parfum, essential oils, plant extracts and preservatives (near the end).
2. **Scan it yourself** in each app. Scores change, so skip old screenshots.
3. **Find the driver:** the single worst-rated ingredient in each app.
4. **Name the rule:** worst-ingredient cap? Fragrance? Thin data? A trace amount?
5. **Decide what matters for your child.** Ask your pediatrician about skin concerns.

## Baby-wash aisle checklist

☐ No "fragrance" or "parfum" in the ingredients

☐ No essential oils (if you're avoiding scent)

☐ I know which ingredient set each app's score

☐ I checked EWG's data rating, not just the number

☐ Tear-free or eye-safe claim, if that matters to me

☐ Patch-tested before full use

**Sources (read Nov 2, 2026):** 1. help.yuka.io: Evaluation of cosmetic products · 2. help.yuka.io: How penalties are calculated · 3. ewg.org/skindeep/understanding_skin_deep_ratings · 4. ewg.org/skindeep/learn_more/about · 5. thinkdirtyapp.com/methodology · 6. Yuka Terms & Conditions (USA) §3.2. Not affiliated with Yuka, EWG or Think Dirty. App names are used only to describe their published methods.

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