

**HUFFPOST**

## The Beauty Items You Need To Get Rid Of RIGHT NOW

It's time to spring clean your beauty cabinet.

By Julia Brucculieri | March 21, 2018



With winter officially over, now is the perfect time to give your beauty bag (or bags) and cabinet a fresh start.

If you're anything like us, you've probably got some products in your arsenal that are well past their expiration date. (Yes, beauty products expire!) If we're being completely honest, we're still holding on to lipsticks and eyeshadow palettes from *years* ago.

But there's no time like the present to spring clean your beauty routine. Take stock of what you have and how long you've had it. There's a good chance many of your products are ready to be tossed in the trash. It should be noted that most products, once opened, tend to last anywhere from six months to a year, with some exceptions. If a product is unopened and stored properly (in a cool, dry place away from high temperatures and UV exposure), it could last up to three years.

With the help of beauty chemist Ni'Kita Wilson, we've put together a comprehensive list of the shelf lives of common beauty products, once they've been opened — from your moisturizer to concealer and even your hairspray.

Go forth and purge your beauty products!

## 16. Sponges

How long they last: **Ava Shamban**, a Beverly Hills-based dermatologist, told Allure in 2017 that blenders and sponges should be washed regularly and replaced every three months. Wilson suggested they could potentially last for six to 12 months, though she did express concern about their unsanitary nature.

When to toss them: Sponges can be a breeding ground for microbials, Wilson said, noting that she's "not fully confident we can truly clean the inside." Celebrity makeup artist Edward Cruz told InStyle in 2015 that, ideally, Beautyblenders should be replaced every other month, but with proper cleansing, you can stretch it to three months.

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