

WAYS TO BEAT THE RAYS

According to The Skin Cancer Foundation, UV rays damage the DNA in skin cells, which can lead to skin cancer or premature aging. To protect yourself, there are a few things you can do:



Limit outdoor time, or avoid it altogether, especially if the UV index is 8 or higher



Wear clothing and hats that cover as much skin as possible to block the rays UV Index 8-10
= high risk of
harm from
unprotected
sun exposure



Wear sunscreen!

(this is the most popular option since it's no fun to skip those outdoor summer festivities and it's certainly uncomfortable to dress in long sleeves & pants when it's hot and humid outside)

UV Index 11+ =
very high risk
of harm from
unprotected
sun exposure

SUNSCREEN WHAT TO LOOK FOR



Broad Spectrum

Effectively protects against both UVA & UVB rays

At least 30 SPF

If your skin would typically redden after 5 minutes without sunscreen, then wearing SPF30 would allow you to stay in the sun 30x longer (2.5 hours in this example) without getting burnt

Water Resistant: 40 or 80 Rating

"80 Minutes" specifically means that sunscreen remains effective for roughly 80 minutes of sweating or swimming

Bonus

Skin Cancer Foundation Seal of Recommendation

Active Ingredients: 10-30%

10-30% of total ingredients should be active - either chemical or physical sun protection.
Chemical: protects by absorbing rays.
Examples: avobenzone, benzophenone
Physical: protects by sitting on top of the skin and deflecting rays. Examples: zinc oxide, titanium dioxide