

Always apply the self-adhesive patch at least 5 days before any colouring process. This is because PPD sensitivity sometimes causes reactions which may not appear until 4 to 5 days after application. Always use this medicine exactly as described in this leaflet. Colourstart is not recommended for adolescents and children under 16 years of age.

Adults and adolescents aged 16 years and over: The instructions and diagrams below relate to the use of the patch on the upper arm. Select a clean, dry, intact area of skin to apply the patch. The patch should be applied only to healthy skin that is free of acne, scars, dermatitis or any other condition that may interfere with the test results. Avoid placing the patch on areas of the skin where creams or emollients have been applied as these may affect how the patch sticks to the skin. A positive result is usually seen as a rash, redness and tiny blisters. It may also itch and or feel warm. Note that the redness may not be evenly spread across the area. If you see a reaction to Colourstart, DO NOT apply hair colorant. You may suffer a worse reaction. You should seek medical advice from your doctor. If you experience any symptoms of discomfort or there is a noticeable difference in how your skin looks or feels in this 48 hour period, remove the patch and wash the area gently with water as it may be a positive result. DO NOT apply hair colorant. Talk to your pharmacist or doctor if you are at all unsure. After 48 hours you may remove the patch. If a severe patch test reaction develops which is seen as intense redness with large fluid filled blisters, talk to your doctor immediately. DO NOT apply hair colorant. If no positive test result is seen continue to look at the area for a further 48 to 72 hours to see if there is a change in the skin. There should be no visible differences in the two patches marked A+ and A-. It is important to continue to look at the area for at least 5 days after initial application of the patch. This is because PPD sensitivity sometimes causes reactions which may not appear until 4 to 5 days after the application. If this occurs seek advice from your doctor. Colourstart works by showing if you are likely to be allergic to PPD only and will not detect if you might be allergic to other ingredients in hair colorants. The absence of a reaction following use of Colourstart does not guarantee a safe hair colour treatment, but by following these safety instructions, you can minimise risk. If you use more Colourstart than you should This is not possible if you use Colourstart only as directed as it is a single use patch. If you put on more than one patch, or if anyone else has put a patch on their skin accidentally, remove it as soon as you can and wash the area gently with water. If you have any further questions on the use of this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist. Identifying the results Wait 20 to 30 minutes after removing the patch and then examine your arm to look for any signs of an allergic "positive" test reaction. If the test is positive, indicating potential allergy to hair colorant, the area under the patch marked A+ will look different to that marked A-.

Directions

1. Wash your hands before applying the patch.
2. Peel open the foil pouch and remove the patch. Remove the tab marked "1" from the surface of the patch whilst taking care not to touch the patches (see Figure 1).
3. Whilst holding the patch at the edge with finger tips place it on the upper arm (above the elbow but below the shoulder) where you will be able to see the test results. The patch should be smoothed from the centre to the outer edges (see Figure 2). The second tab, marked with a "2" should then be removed (see Figure 3) and the patch smoothed from the centre to the outer edges (see Figure 2). Once the patch is in place you will see one patch marked "A+", which is the active patch containing PPD and one clear patch marked "A-", which is the control patch with no PPD allergen. You should wear the patch for at least 48 hours without removing it.