

Throwing a “Psuedocon” Wipe-Making Party

by the Portland Action Medics & Rosehip Medics of Portland, Oregon

www.rosehipmedicspdx.org

WHY:

When chemical weapons are deployed, they’re hard to clean off the skin – by design. Sudecon wipes are the gold standard for removing chemical weapons from skin. However, they cost \$15 for a 4-pack. With some time, materials, and friends, you can make about 600 “pseudocon” wipe packets for about \$250. (All price estimates are from January 2026.) These DIY wipes are very effective, and making them can be a fun community-building project!

This recipe and method is based on the actual Sudecon patent and was originally and rigorously put to use in Portland, Oregon, and around the country in 2020. It was very effective as a first aid intervention.

YOU’LL NEED:

People: 4-8 assembly workers (a.k.a. friends and comrades). This is a great project for friends who want to avoid street demonstrations, but want to make a meaningful contribution.

Space: Lots of table space in a room that can handle sticky spills. Think church basement, school cafeteria, garage/workshop, community parks buildings... anywhere you’d throw a sloppy kids’ party is great.

Time: We estimate a first-time three-batch party to take 3 to 4 hours with those lovely 4-8 people working. Additionally there are probably 1-2 hours of supply gathering and pre-prep work to be done, such as printing the labels.

Money: About \$250 should cover the cost of disposable materials/ingredients for a 3-batch party. We recommend a 3-batch party because setup, prep, and cleanup takes time.

Materials: Durable materials needed include a large tupperware or small clean bucket for mixing more than a gallon of liquid, measuring cups, and tables to do the assembly on. You’ll probably want a sink nearby and some towels for drying hands. If you can find a laundry wringer or similar device, that’s an amazing addition.

Ingredients: Ingredients/disposable materials should be acquired and prepped (printed) beforehand.

INGREDIENTS:

This is the ingredients list for **ONE BATCH**. We strongly recommend doing a **THREE BATCH PARTY** by tripling the recommendations here.

Ingredient	How much?	Possible substitute	What to know
Water , warm	1 gallon		Do not use cold water. Your hands will freeze, and sugar will dissolve slowly.

Sugar, white	9 cups (=5 pounds)	Fructose can be substituted cup for cup in whole or in part	Fructose is a bit less sticky, which is nice. Unrefined, raw, & brown sugars are not recommended d/t theoretical shortening of shelf life.
Citric acid	2 Tbsp.		
Baby shampoo	21 fl. oz.		You want “no tears” shampoos. Johnson & Johnson is the gold standard.
WypAll towels (L30 or X60 are good)	400-500 sheets	Heavy-duty paper towels or heavy-duty restaurant napkins (both inferior)	WypAll towels (medical supply wipes) will last indefinitely; heavy-duty paper towels are rougher on skin and will disintegrate over time.
Plastic bags, quart	200-250		You’ll want to get freezer (heavy-duty) quart bags that click closed rather than slide closed – they are more reliable.
Plastic bags, gallon	20-25	(Optional, but improves distribution experience)	Bag every ten quart packets into one gallon packet for leak protection/ease of distribution. Again, click not zip.
Sticker labels	200-250 (the 2” by 4”, ten to a sheet size)		Print ingredients labels beforehand! Good labels are important to build trust/ get folks to use the wipes. Suggested wording at end of document.
Gloves	4 per person (for production)		Gloves are available at restaurant or medical supply stores in a variety of sizes.

Remember, we strongly recommend buying **3 times this amount** at once to do a 3 batch production party. Purchasing, setup, and cleanup (and organizing schedules and procuring space) are all work, so doing a double or (recommended) triple batch is very efficient.

These amounts are based on an estimate production of 200 packets per one batch, and include an overage to produce up to 250 packets per batch- if doing a triple batch, you will likely not need as much “overage” as accounted for here.

THROWING THE PARTY

Set up a dry end (or a dry table), a wet table, and a bagging table (which is hopefully dry). Anyone touching the WypAlls or the wet mixture (the things that go inside the ziplocks) wears gloves to avoid bacterial contamination. Everyone at the party should wash their hands well regardless of their role.

Start labeling the quart bags to get a stack ready up front, so wet production isn’t waiting. (This can even happen beforehand – getting even a quarter or half of the bags labeled before starting is helpful!) It’s best to apply stickers towards the bottom of the bag, so that after assembly, bags can be folded in half. This minimizes leaks!

Before starting on wet production, fold your WypAlls. (Or get a strong head start, at least.) Take one WypAll and fold it half, take another and fold it in half, then stack the two together. This pair is what goes in each bag. You can prep by stacking these pairs crisscross for assembly line efficiency.

Once your dry prep is well-started, start mixing the first batch. FOR WET MIXING EASE, WE RECOMMEND MIXING ONE BATCH AT A TIME, even for a three-batch party. Logistically, it's much easier to work with.

In a large tupperware or other container, thoroughly mix the warm water, white sugar (or fructose), and citric acid. You can use a whisk, an immersion blender, or strong arms and whatever you've got. AFTER those are well dissolved together, gently mix in the baby shampoo.

Now for the wet part: Dunk your WypAll stacks in the liquid. You don't need to do one pair at a time; grab an easy-to-handle stack. Flip the stack and maybe sloosh around a bit to thoroughly soak the stack. Then take one pair at a time out of the liquid, and squeeze the heck out of them, draining the liquid back into the container.

Seriously, squeeze them SO MUCH.

You can use an actual wringer (a laundry wringer, or maybe a pasta maker?) or a rolling pin and large board. It's helpful! These wipes are ideal when moist but NOT dripping. If squeezing by hand, maybe have one person squeeze and then a second person squeeze the same pair over again.

After the WypAlls are very well-squeezed, somebody with dry hands should hold open a labeled quart-size ziplock to receive the pair of wipes. The wipes go in, the bag gets air pushed out and sealed, then gets folded in half (with wipes at the bottom of the bag). This is not just about neatness; it's a big help for leak reduction! Ten filled quart bags get stored in a gallon bag (again, this helps contain leaks.) If all goes according to plan, only dippers/squeezers get their gloved hands wet, and the outside of each bag remains dry and clean.

CARRYING AND USING THE WIPES

Securing against leaks is important – leaks are a true barrier to carrying and using the wipes. Wet sugar is sticky and gross! So try not to puncture the bags while carrying in a pack.

A gallon-size pack with ten bags of wipes is a great amount for a medic to have on hand. The individual packets of wipes can be passed out in crowds before chemical weapons are deployed, which can help people feel prepared and strong.

These wipes don't have common irritants/allergens in them, and a thorough label helps users be well informed about what they're putting on their bodies. These wipes are intended for topical use only.

To use, simply remove a wipe from its packet and wipe chemical weapons off skin. Rinsing with lukewarm water after is great if it's easy to access. The user should feel some relief from the removal of chemical weapons. These "pseudocon" wipes aren't a substitute for thorough decontamination practices. They are a solid first step in reducing pain and exposure to chemical weapons. Thoroughly decontaminate body and clothes when you've left the scene of contamination.

While best practice is to use wipes within a few weeks of production, we have found that batches made with WypAlls where folks have been mindful of cleanliness/hygiene during production have lasted for 5+ years without molding or otherwise going bad. (Drying out may be an issue if the bag is not sealed or if they're stored in a hot area like an attic.) Wipes made with paper towels will lose structural integrity

during carrying and long-term storage, but use what you've got! If you suspect that the wipes have gone bad – your eyes or nose decide that something is off – err on the side of caution and safety and discard them.

LABELS

Portland Action Medics/Rosehips labels say:

Chemical Weapons Wipes

For skin, face, closed eyes – use like Sudecon

Contains water, fructose/sucrose, baby shampoo, citric acid.

Store gently; discard if leaky or moldy

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You are welcome to use the Rosehip website on your labels, if you follow these instructions. This can give folks a place to look for further information if desired, and can add a feeling of safety and trust to the product.

You can also choose not to, or put your own tag line of community strength on there. Remember no one will be reading this when they're covered in chemical weapons; they'll read it when they get the packet (hopefully) so clear, concise instructions are easiest to remember when the wipes are needed.

FINALLY

The power of the state is strong, but we are stronger because we are going to take care of each other- from Oregon to Minnesota and beyond, we're got your back. We believe in you and the power of your communities. Standing up against fascism isn't just the best choice, it's the only choice. Providing tools to help people stand stronger is a vital part of the movement, and we thank you for your work.