

[Home](#)

2. Desonide

Desonide topical

Generic name: desonide topical [*DES-oh-nide*]**Brand names:** [DesOwen](#), DesOwen Cream Kit, [DesOwen Lotion 2 oz Kit](#), DesOwen Lotion 4 oz Kit, [DesOwen Ointment Kit](#), ... [show all 13 brands](#)**Dosage forms:** compounding powder (-), topical cream (0.05%), topical foam (0.05%), topical gel (0.05%), ... [show all 7 dosage forms](#)**Drug class:** [Topical steroids](#)[Medically reviewed](#) by Drugs.com on Aug 4, 2023. Written by [Cerner Multum](#).[Uses](#) [Side effects](#) [Warnings](#) [Before taking](#) [Dosage](#) [Interactions](#) [FAQ](#)

What is desonide topical?

Desonide is a steroid that helps reduce inflammation in the body.

Desonide topical (for the skin) is used to treat inflammation and [itching](#) caused by [eczema](#) or [skin conditions](#) that respond to steroid medication.

Desonide topical may also be used for purposes not listed in this medication guide.

Desonide topical side effects

Get emergency medical help if you have **signs of an allergic reaction**: hives; difficult breathing; swelling of your face, lips, tongue, or throat.

Desonide topical may cause serious side effects. Call your doctor at once if you have:

- worsening of your skin condition;
- redness, warmth, swelling, oozing, or severe irritation of any treated skin;
- blurred vision, tunnel vision, eye pain, or seeing halos around lights;
- **high blood sugar**--increased thirst, increased urination, [dry mouth](#), fruity breath odor; or
- **possible signs of absorbing desonide topical through your skin**--weight gain (especially in your face or your upper back and torso), slow wound healing, thinning or discolored skin, increased body hair, muscle weakness, [nausea](#), [diarrhea](#), tiredness, mood changes, menstrual changes, sexual changes.

Steroid medicine can affect growth in children. Tell your doctor if your child is not growing at a normal rate while using this medicine.

Common side effects of desonide topical may include:

- stinging or burning of treated skin;
- skin irritation, redness, itching, or hardening;
- dry, scaly, or oily skin;
- swelling in your hands or feet;
- acne, stretch marks; or
- redness or crusting around your hair follicles.

This is not a complete list of side effects and others may occur. Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

 [Desonide topical side effects](#) (more detail)

Related/similar drugs

Dupixent

Dupixent may be used to treat eczema, eosinophilic or oral-corticosteroid-dependent asthma, chronic ...

Reviews & ratings

7.2 / 10

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Methylprednisolone is used to treat conditions such as allergies, arthritis, lupus and ulcerative ...

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Cetirizine treats cold or allergy symptoms such as sneezing, itching, watery eyes, or runny nose ...

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Warnings

Follow all directions on your medicine label and package. Tell each of your healthcare providers about all your medical conditions, allergies, and all medicines you use.

Before taking this medicine

You should not use desonide if you are allergic to it.

Tell your doctor if you have ever had:

- any type of [skin infection](#);

- [diabetes](#); or
- a skin reaction to any steroid medicine.

It is not known whether desonide topical will harm an unborn baby. Tell your doctor if you are pregnant.

It may not be safe to breastfeed while using this medicine. Ask your doctor about any risk. If you apply desonide to your chest, avoid areas that may come into contact with the baby's mouth.

Do not give this medicine to a child without medical advice. **Some brands or forms of this medicine are for use only in adults 18 and over.**

Children can absorb larger amounts of this medicine through the skin and may be more likely to have side effects.

How should I use desonide topical?

Follow all directions on your prescription label and read all medication guides or instruction sheets. Use the medicine exactly as directed.

Do not take by mouth. Topical medicine is for use only on the skin. **Rinse with water if this medicine gets in your eyes or mouth.**

Shake the **lotion** just before each use.

Wash your hands after using desonide, unless you are using this medicine to treat the skin on your hands.

Apply a thin layer of medicine to the affected skin and rub it in gently. **Do not apply this medicine over a large area of skin unless your doctor has told you to.**

Do not cover the treated skin area with a bandage or other covering unless your doctor tells you to. Covering treated areas can increase the amount of medicine absorbed through your skin and may cause harmful effects.

If you are treating the diaper area, do not use plastic pants or tight-fitting diapers.

This medicine is for short-term use only (such as 2 to 4 weeks). **Follow your doctor's dosing instructions very carefully.**

You should stop using the medicine once your skin symptoms are controlled.

Call your doctor if your symptoms do not improve, or if they get worse.

Store at room temperature away from moisture and heat. Keep the bottle or tube tightly closed when not in use.

Desonide topical dosing information

Usual Adult Dose for Dermatitis:

Cream/ointment: Apply a thin film to the affected areas two to four times per day depending on the severity of the condition

Duration of therapy: 2 weeks

Comments:

- Treatment should be discontinued when control is achieved.
- Reassessment of diagnosis may be needed, if no improvement is observed in two weeks.
- This topical drug should not be used with occlusive dressings.

Use: Relief of the inflammatory and pruritic manifestations of corticosteroid responsive dermatoses

Usual Adult Dose for Eczema:

Cream/ointment: Apply a thin film to the affected areas two to four times per day depending on the severity of the condition

Duration of therapy: 2 weeks

Comments:

- Treatment should be discontinued when control is achieved.
- Reassessment of diagnosis may be needed, if no improvement is observed in two weeks.
- This topical drug should not be used with occlusive dressings.

Use: Relief of the inflammatory and pruritic manifestations of corticosteroid responsive dermatoses

Usual Adult Dose for Atopic Dermatitis:

Foam, gel: Apply a thin film to the affected areas two times a day and rub in gently.

Duration of therapy: 4 weeks

Comments:

- Treatment should be discontinued when control is achieved.
- Reassessment of diagnosis may be needed, if no improvement is observed in four weeks.
- This topical drug should not be used with occlusive dressings.

Use: Treatment of mild to moderate [atopic dermatitis](#)

Usual Pediatric Dose for Atopic Dermatitis:

3 months or older:

Foam, gel: Apply a thin film to the affected areas two times a day and rub in gently.

Duration of therapy: 4 weeks

Comments:

- Treatment should be discontinued when control is achieved.
- Reassessment of diagnosis may be needed, if no improvement is observed in four weeks.
- This topical drug should not be used with occlusive dressings.

Use: Treatment of mild to moderate atopic [dermatitis](#)

 [Detailed Desonide topical dosage information](#)

What happens if I miss a dose?

Apply the medicine as soon as you can, but skip the missed dose if it is almost time for your next dose. **Do not** apply two doses at one time.

What happens if I overdose?

Seek emergency medical attention or call the Poison Help line at 1-800-222-1222 if anyone has accidentally swallowed the medication.

High doses or long-term use of desonide topical can lead to thinning skin, easy bruising, changes in body fat (especially in your face, neck, back, and waist), increased acne or facial hair, menstrual problems, [impotence](#), or loss of interest in sex.

What should I avoid while using desonide topical?

Avoid getting desonide topical in your eyes, nose, or mouth.

Do not use desonide topical to treat any skin condition that has not been checked by your doctor.

What other drugs will affect desonide topical?

Medicine used on the skin is not likely to be affected by other drugs you use. But many drugs can interact with each other. Tell each of your healthcare providers about all medicines you use, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, [vitamins](#), and [herbal products](#).

 [Desonide topical drug interactions](#) (more detail)

Does desonide topical interact with my other drugs?

Enter medications to view a detailed interaction report using our [Drug Interaction Checker](#).

desonide topical

+

Enter a drug name

Add

Frequently asked questions

- [What is Desonide cream used for?](#)

More about desonide topical

- [Check interactions](#)
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- [Dosage information](#)

- [During pregnancy](#)
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- [Breastfeeding](#)
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Patient resources

- [Desonide advanced reading](#)
- [Desonide Cream, Gel, and Ointment](#)
- [Desonide Lotion](#)

Other brands

[DesOwen](#), [Desonate](#), [LoKara](#), [DesOwen Lotion 2 oz Kit](#), ... +3 more

Professional resources

- [Desonide monograph](#)
- [Desonide \(FDA\)](#)
- [Desonide Cream \(FDA\)](#)
- [Desonide Gel \(FDA\)](#)
- [Desonide Lotion \(FDA\)](#)

Other brands

[DesOwen](#), [Desonate](#), [DesRx](#), [Verdeso](#)

Related treatment guides

- [Atopic Dermatitis](#)
- [Eczema](#)
- [Psoriasis](#)
- [Allergies](#)
- [Dermatitis](#)

Further information

Remember, keep this and all other medicines out of the reach of children, never share your medicines with others, and use this medication only for the indication prescribed.

Always consult your healthcare provider to ensure the information displayed on this page applies to your personal circumstances.

[Medical Disclaimer](#)

DRUG STATUS

Availability

Rx Prescription only

Pregnancy & Lactation


 Risk data available

CSA Schedule*

N/A Not a controlled drug



Approval History

 Drug history at FDA



User Reviews & Ratings

9.1 / 10

[38 Reviews](#)

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