

## main points

---

- Everything in our homes and environments is composed of chemical substances.
- It is frequently difficult to anticipate specific properties of useful chemicals.
- Some chemicals have hazardous properties even though they are very useful if used as directed.
- Chemicals used in cleaning are often acids or bases.
- In addition to foods, a vast variety of chemicals are present in our kitchens.
- Pharmaceuticals are compounds derived from nature, modified from natural compounds, or completely synthetic compounds. They are subject to extensive testing before commercial distribution is allowed.