Infection Salve

Infection Salve is one of our most popular items, and for good reason — it's gentle enough for a baby's bottom, yet powerful enough for any hot or inflamed sore on the body. It combines the same herbal blend used in Herbal Aid 2 with Frankincense and Oregano essential oils, extracted using a triple-infusion method that makes this salve unusually strong.

This Herbal Combination



Plantain — A common roadside plant with a long history as a wound herb, Plantain draws out toxins and soothes irritated, inflamed skin — a natural first choice for stings, bites, and minor infections.



Black Walnut — Black Walnut is a strong antiseptic and antifungal herb, traditionally used to clear infection from the skin and keep it from spreading.



Goldenseal Root — Goldenseal Root is one of the most trusted infection-fighting herbs in traditional practice, prized for its ability to clear infection and support healing wherever it's applied.



Bugle Weed — Bugle Weed brings a soothing, cooling action to the blend, calming inflamed and irritated tissue.



Marshmallow Root — Marshmallow Root is deeply soothing to inflamed, irritated skin, helping calm the burning and swelling that come with a sting, bite, or infection.



Lobelia — Lobelia is a relaxing, antispasmodic herb that helps ease the tension and discomfort around an inflamed or painful area.



Extra Virgin Olive Oil — Olive oil is the carrier the whole formula is built on — it's what the six herbs above are triple-infused into, pulling out and carrying their properties into the salve. On its own, olive oil is also deeply nourishing to the skin, feeding and softening it as it delivers the herbs.



Beeswax — Beeswax is added after the triple infusion to bring the herb-infused oil to a workable salve texture — thickening it so it stays put on the skin instead of running off. Beyond texture, beeswax carries its own mild anti-inflammatory and antimicrobial properties, helping soothe irritation and protect minor cuts, burns, and scrapes while they heal. It also leaves a light, breathable film over the area once applied, helping the salve stay on the skin longer.



Frankincense Essential Oil — Frankincense essential oil is anti-inflammatory and antiseptic, helping speed healing and calm irritated skin.



Oregano Essential Oil — Oregano essential oil is a strong natural antiseptic, added here to reinforce the salve's infection-fighting power.

How It's Made

The herbal blend is the same one used in Herbal Aid 2 — Plantain, Black Walnut, Goldenseal Root, Bugle Weed, Marshmallow Root, and Lobelia — extracted into Extra Virgin Olive Oil using a triple-infusion method we call “to the 7th power.” The herbs are set in dehydrator ovens at 150° for three hours, then the spent herbs are swapped out for a fresh batch and the same oil is run through again — three times in all. Beeswax is then added to bring the infused oil to a salve, and Frankincense and Oregano essential oils are added at the end. The result is an unusually strong, deeply infused salve that supports the body's own healing and helps clear infection from the skin.

How the Salve Clears a Skin Infection

A skin infection typically moves through stages: first a break in the skin lets bacteria in, then the area turns red, warm, and swollen as the body's own defenses rush to the site, and if it isn't brought under control the infection can deepen, spread, or turn painful and slow to heal. Infection Salve is formulated to work at each of these stages. Goldenseal Root, Black Walnut, and Oregano essential oil go after the infection itself, helping keep bacteria from taking hold and spreading. Plantain, Marshmallow Root, and Frankincense calm the redness, heat, and swelling that come with the body's inflammatory response, while Lobelia eases the tension and discomfort around the site. Together, they support the skin through the whole course of clearing an infection — rather than just masking the symptoms — so healing happens faster and more completely.

This makes Infection Salve wonderfully versatile: it works on bee stings, wasp stings, and ant bites, is a great aid for any topical infection, and some of our members also use it for sores in and around the mouth.

Suggested Use

Apply the salve directly to the affected area and cover with a flannel pack. Or try this trick: lay a piece of flannel on a sheet of Press'n Seal wrap, sticky side up, spread the salve onto the flannel, then pick it up and press it directly over the affected area.

From Dara’s Practice

One afternoon, while I was waiting for my husband to head into town, I saw a few weeds sitting happy as could be in our raised flower bed. I leaned in and absentmindedly began pulling them — which seriously upset a garden variety spider and a whole mound of ants. I react very strongly to ant bites, so this was a foolish move to make without a glove on my hand. Teach me to skip the glove! I was bitten by all of them before I got my hand out of there. After dousing my swelling fingers and palm with cold water, I spread a thick layer of Infection Salve over the burning, swelling areas. We skipped our trip into town while I sat at my desk playing Solitaire to distract myself while the salve went to work. In about 15 minutes the ant bites had cleared, though the spider bite took a couple of hours to stop throbbing and wasn't fully clear of redness until the next morning. This salve is an excellent aid for painful insect bites of any kind.

This information is provided for educational purposes as part of traditional herbal practice and is not intended to diagnose, treat, cure, or prevent any disease. Always consult a qualified healthcare provider regarding any health condition.

For more on this formula, see my blog post “A Salve for Stings, Bites and Hot, Inflamed Sores” at www.daradietz.me.