

WHERE CLASSICAL WISDOM MEETS INTELLIGENT LEARNING

Chapter 2. Face Cleansers & Scrubs (Ubtan, Lepas) - Ingredients & Formulation

<u>AD</u>



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1 · Why Ubtan & Lepa Still Reign

- **Soap-free cleansing** preserves the acid mantle and skin microbiome.
- **Powder-to-paste** format = zero preservatives; fresh actives each use.
- Customisable: swap 1-2 herbs and you pivot from oily-acne care to bridal glow.

Definitions

Ubtan = dry herbal-grain blend activated with water/milk/hydrosol, used for cleansing or gentle daily polish.

Lepa = wetter, finer paste with higher herb load, left on 10-20 min as a treatment mask.

2 · Ingredient Toolbox by Function

Function	Ayurvedic Ingredients (Latin)	Modern Parallel
Base Flours	Chick-pea (Cicer arietinum), Red lentil (Lens culinaris), Oat	Mild surfactant & bulk
Keratolytic / Lekhana	Horse-gram (Macrotyloma uniflorum), Rice husk, Walnut shell	Micro-exfoliant beads
Antimicrobial	Neem (Azadirachta indica), Tulsi (Ocimum sanctum), Turmeric (Curcuma aromatica)	AHA/BHA cleansers
Brightening / Varṇya	Manjishtha (<i>Rubia cordifolia</i>), Licorice (<i>Glycyrrhiza glabra</i>), Sandal (<i>Santalum album</i>)	Niacinamide, arbutin
Soothing / Vāta-Pacifying	Oat beta-glucan, Bala (<i>Sida cordifolia</i>), Shatavari (<i>Asparagus racemosus</i>)	Colloidal oatmeal
Cooling / Pitta-Pacifying	Vetiver (Vetiveria zizanioides), Lotus petal (Nelumbo nucifera), Aloe powder	Calamine, aloe gel
Kapha-Scraping	Lodhra (Symplocos racemosa), Trikatu blend, Mustard seed	Clay, charcoal

3 · Skin-Type Matrix: Choose Your Ratio

Skin State	Flour (%)	Herbal Actives (%)	Booster (%)	Liquid Activator
Vāta (dry)	55	30 soothing	15 milk powder / almond meal	Warm milk + ½ tsp ghee
Pitta (sensitive/brt)	45	35 cooling/bright	20 aloe or sandal	Rose/vetiver hydrosol
Kapha (oily/acne)	35	45 antimicrobial	20 rice husk / clay	Warm water + 2 drops lemon
Combo / Normal	50	35 mixed	15 oat or rice	Plain water / yogurt

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4 · Formulation Blueprints (100 g Batch)

4.1 Gentle Daily Ubtan - "Rosy Oat Glow" (All Skins)

- 40 g oat flour
- 25 g chick-pea flour
- 15 g rose-petal powder
- 10 g licorice powder
- 8 g manjishtha powder
- 2 g sandalwood powder

Use: 1 tsp + water, massage 30 s, rinse.

4.2 Kapha-Crush Scrub - "Neem-Lodhra Detox" (Acne/Oily)

- 30 g rice husk micro-grit
- 20 g chick-pea flour
- 20 g neem leaf powder
- 15 g lodhra bark powder
- 10 g tulsi leaf powder
- 5 g turmeric (kasturi)

Use: Alt-days; circular 60 s; leave 1 min; rinse cool.

4.3 Pitta-Calm Lepa - "Sandal-Vetiver Bright Mask"

- 30 g sandalwood powder
- 25 g vetiver root powder (ultra-fine)
- 20 g lotus petal powder
- 15 g manjishtha
- 10 g aloe freeze-dry

Mix 2 tsp with cucumber-rose hydrosol; apply 15 min; mist to keep moist.

4.4 Vāta-Nourish Ubtan - "Almond-Milk Velvet"

- 35 g oat flour
- 20 g almond meal (blanched fine)
- 20 g shatavari root powder
- 15 g bala root powder
- 10 g milk powder

Activate with warm whole milk + 3 drops sesame oil; slow massage; rinse lukewarm.

5 · Advanced Boosters (Optional 2-5 %)

GoalBoosterCompatibilityExtra BrightVitamin-C (sodium ascorbyl phosphate)Pitta/Combo; \leq 2 %Anti-PollutionActivated charcoalKapha; \leq 3 %Aging-GraceCentella extractVāta/Pitta; \leq 1 %

Add only to retail lines with preservative system.

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6 · Quality & Safety Essentials

- Mesh Size: 120-200 for face; 60-80 for body.
- Microbial Load: Keep moisture < 5 %; add 0.3 % sodium benzoate if fruit powders present.
- Patch-Test: Turmeric & mustard may stain or irritate fair Pitta skins—advise 24 h test.
- **Shelf-Life:** 9 months in amber jar; label "Keep Dry / Use Dry Spoon".

7 · Regulatory Snapshot (India & EU)

- Herbal powders classed as category 2 cosmetics—no heavy metal > 1 ppm Pb/Cd.
- Essential-oil limits: sandal ≤ 1 %, turmeric ≤ 0.5 % (IFRA).
- Claims: stick to "brightens complexion" / "reduces excess oil"; avoid drug-like language ("cures acne").

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Key Take-Aways

- 1. Ratio = magic. Adjust flour : herb : booster based on doṣa & season.
- 2. Fresh activation means potent actives and low preservative need.
- 3. **Texture determines use:** gritty for Kapha scrub, silk-fine for Pitta lepa.
- 4. Pair every ubtan/lepa with matching toner & moisturiser for full regimen synergy.

Lab mantra: "Grain grounds, herb heals, booster polishes—blend wisely for bespoke beauty."

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