

Key Functional Ingredients in Edge Control

Note: Most Edge Controls cannot be claimed as natural. They contain petroleum-derived ingredients. These ingredients are included in this chart. In the [Professional Natural Hair Care Formulation Course](#) there are two formulations: Traditional Edge Control and a natural Edge Gel.

Ingredient Type	Examples	Function
Gelling Agents/ Thickeners	Xanthan Gum, HEC cellulose gum, PVP, Polyacrylate Crosspolymer-6	Provides structure, hold, and consistency.
Emulsifiers	Ceteareth-25, Ceteareth- 30, PEG-40 Hydrogenated Castor Oil	Thickens and stabilizes dispersed systems.
Humectants	Glycerin, Propanediol	Retains moisture and prevents product from flaking.
Emollients and Refatting Agents	Castor Oil, Coconut Oil, Babassu Oil, Shea Butter Esters, PEG-7 Glyceryl Cocoate	Conditions hair, provides shine, and prevents drying.
Film Formers/ Hair Fixatives	PVP, VP/VA Copolymer	Enhances hold and locks hair in place.
Preservatives	Geogard ECT, Geogard Ultra, Potassium Sorbate	Ensures the product remains safe and stable for use.
Fragrance and Essential Oils	Lavender, Peppermint, Vanilla, Tea Tree	Provides pleasant scent and added benefits like scalp stimulation.
pH Adjusters	Citric Acid, Sodium Hydroxide	Balances the pH (target pH is usually 5.0–6.0).