

surfactant *(sur-fac-tant)*

Definition

n. a substance that reduces the surface tension of a liquid, allowing it to spread more easily. surfactants are commonly used in detergents and emulsifiers.

Example Sentence

The **surfactant** in the soap helps to break down grease and dirt on surfaces.

More Example Sentences

Without a **surfactant**, the water would bead up instead of spreading out.

Synonyms

detergent; emulsifier; wetting agent

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