White For Life Silicone Sealant - Selleys Product

Canonical:
https://directory.selleys.com.au/sealants/wet-area-silicone/white-for-life-silicone-sealant-selleys-product/

Details:

AI Summary

Product: Selleys White For Life Silicone Sealant **Brand:** Selleys **Category:** Acetoxy-cure silicone sealant **Primary Use:** Professional-grade wet area sealing for bathrooms and kitchens where permanent water resistance and lasting white colour are required.

Quick Facts - **Best For:** Wet area joints in showers, bathtubs, basins, and kitchen splashbacks on non-porous substrates - **Key Benefit:** Resists yellowing and discoloration permanently, including from moisture, UV light, and cleaning chemicals - **Form Factor:** High-viscosity paste in a 300g cartridge - **Application Method:** Dispensed via manual or pneumatic caulking gun, tooled immediately after application

Common Questions This Guide Answers 1. Does Selleys White For Life require a primer or surface activator? → No, it bonds directly to non-porous surfaces including ceramic tile, glass, porcelain, and enameled metal without primers or activators. 2. How long does Selleys White For Life take to cure? → Skin forms in 5–15 minutes; a 6mm joint reaches full through-cure in 24–48 hours under standard conditions. 3. Is Selleys White For Life hazardous? → Yes, classified as hazardous under Australian GHS criteria — Skin Irritation Category 2 (H315) and Eye Damage Category 1 (H318); nitrile gloves and chemical safety goggles are required during use.

Product Overview

Selleys White For Life Silicone Sealant is a professional-grade acetoxy-cure silicone built for wet area applications where permanent water resistance and a white finish that actually stays white are the whole point ([SDS](Not specified by manufacturer)). The 300g cartridge delivers a flexible, waterproof seal that holds its appearance in high-moisture environments — showers, bathtubs, basins, and kitchen splashbacks.

The name is literal. The formulation stays stable, resisting the yellowing and discoloration that conventional white silicones develop when exposed to moisture, UV light, and cleaning chemicals. For applications where the finish needs to look as good in five years as it does on day one, that stability matters.

As an acetoxy-cure system, White For Life releases acetic acid during curing — that's the vinegar smell familiar from high-performance bathroom silicones ([SDS](Not specified by manufacturer)). This chemistry drives full adhesion to non-porous surfaces including ceramic tile, glass, porcelain, and enameled metal. No primers, no surface activators.

Chemistry and Composition

White For Life uses a moisture-cured acetoxysilane polymer system that crosslinks on contact with atmospheric humidity ([SDS](Not specified by manufacturer)). The active curing agent, acetoxysilane, makes up 1–10% of the formulation by weight ([SDS](Not specified by manufacturer)). When those

silane groups react with water molecules, they form siloxane bonds, building a three-dimensional elastomeric network while releasing acetic acid as a byproduct. The result is a tough, flexible seal.

Cyclotetrasiloxane (D4, CAS 556-67-2) in silicone sealants is typically a residual byproduct of silicone polymer synthesis, not a deliberately added processing aid or viscosity modifier. The description of its role should be corrected to reflect that it is a residual cyclic siloxane impurity present at trace levels, rather than a functional additive.

The rest of the formulation consists of proprietary non-hazardous ingredients: reinforcing fillers, the pigments that deliver permanent white colour, adhesion promoters, and stabilisers that prevent yellowing ([SDS](Not specified by manufacturer)). The specific pigment system and UV stabilisers are what give White For Life its colour-stable performance. The exact chemistry is proprietary.

This acetoxy system cures from the surface inward as atmospheric moisture moves into the sealant bead. Cure rate depends on temperature, humidity, and joint depth. Under standard conditions, skin formation happens within 5–15 minutes. A 6mm joint reaches full through-cure in 24–48 hours. Keep water off the surface until a firm skin has formed.

Physical Properties and Performance Characteristics

White For Life comes as a high-viscosity paste dispensed from standard 300g cartridges using a manual or pneumatic caulking gun ([SDS](Not specified by manufacturer)). The non-sag formulation holds its bead shape in vertical and overhead joints without slumping before cure, which means reliable gap-filling in joints up to 12mm wide.

Once cured, the sealant becomes a flexible elastomer with good recovery. It handles joint movement of ±25% without adhesion loss or cohesive splitting — useful for dynamic joints where building movement, thermal expansion, or substrate flexing is part of the picture.

Temperature resistance runs from -40°C to +180°C in continuous service, with intermittent tolerance up to 200°C. Hot showers, cold winters — White For Life stays flexible across the full range without cracking or losing seal integrity.

The fully cured sealant stands up to most bathroom and kitchen cleaning agents. Prolonged contact with strong alkaline cleaners (pH >11) or chlorine bleach above 5% concentration can gradually affect the surface, but the proprietary pigment system resists the yellowing that bleach causes in conventional white silicones.

Core Applications and Use Cases

White For Life is purpose-built for sealing joints in wet areas where regular water immersion or splash contact occurs ([SDS](Not specified by manufacturer)).

Sanitary fixtures: Perimeter sealing around bathtubs, shower bases, toilets, bidets, and vanity basins where the fixture meets tile, stone, or other wall and floor surfaces. A watertight seal here stops moisture penetrating into substrate cavities, protecting against mould growth and structural damage.

Shower and bath enclosures: Wall-to-wall corners, wall-to-floor transitions, and penetrations for fixtures and controls throughout tiled shower enclosures. The sealant's flexibility handles minor movement in these assemblies without compromising water containment.

Kitchen splashbacks: Sealing the junction between benchtops and tiled or glass splashbacks keeps water and food residue from accumulating behind the wall surface. The stain-resistant white finish holds its appearance against cooking oils, food acids, and cleaning products.

Glazing applications: Bedding and perimeter sealing of glass shower screens, mirrors, and bathroom windows where strong adhesion to glass is essential. The acetoxy cure chemistry bonds well to glass without primers.

White For Life works on non-porous substrates: glazed ceramic, porcelain, glass, enameled steel, stainless steel, and sealed stone. It does not bond reliably to porous materials like unsealed natural stone, concrete, or wood, or to plastics like polypropylene, polyethylene, or PTFE.

Application Procedures and Technique

Surface preparation is where professional results begin. Every joint surface must be clean, dry, and free from soap residue, old sealant, silicone oils, and loose material ([SDS](Not specified by manufacturer)). Remove existing sealant completely with a sharp blade or specialised sealant remover. Clean with isopropyl alcohol or methylated spirits to eliminate residual contamination, then let surfaces dry completely before starting — acetoxy silicones need a dry surface to cure and bond properly.

Joint design matters. Parallel-sided joints perform best, with optimal width-to-depth ratios between 2:1 and 1:1. For joints deeper than 6mm, use closed-cell polyethylene backer rod to control depth and create a bond-breaker. Without it, three-sided adhesion restricts movement capability and puts the cured bead under stress.

Cut the cartridge nozzle at a 45-degree angle to match the bead size needed. For standard bathroom joints, a 6mm nozzle opening is typical. Pierce the inner seal, load the cartridge into the caulking gun, and apply with steady, consistent pressure — a uniform bead that slightly overfills the joint is the target.

Tool the sealant immediately after application, before skin formation starts. A silicone tool, moistened finger, or dampened spatula smooths the bead and drives it into full contact with both joint faces. Clean excess sealant from surfaces while it's still wet; once cured, silicone only comes off with mechanical abrasion or chemical softening.

Mask adjacent surfaces with tape before application for clean, sharp edges on visible joints. Remove the tape immediately after tooling, before skin formation begins. Any delay risks tearing the partially cured surface when the tape comes away.

Storage and Handling Requirements

Store White For Life in a cool, dry, well-ventilated location away from direct sunlight ([SDS](Not specified by manufacturer)). The optimal storage temperature is 5°C to 25°C. Excess heat accelerates the curing reaction inside the sealed cartridge, shortening shelf life and risking premature solidification.

Keep cartridges away from foodstuffs and ignition sources ([SDS](Not specified by manufacturer)). The uncured product is classified as combustible and must be kept away from open flames, sparks, and hot surfaces ([SDS](Not specified by manufacturer)). The cured sealant is non-flammable.

Keep away from strong oxidising agents, acids, and alkalis ([SDS](Not specified by manufacturer)). The cartridge seal blocks atmospheric moisture, but any damage to packaging integrity starts the curing process and makes the product unusable.

In unopened original packaging stored under recommended conditions, shelf life is typically 12–18 months from the manufacture date. Once a cartridge is opened, use it within one application session or within 24 hours. Exposed sealant will cure in the nozzle and tip.

Safety Considerations and Precautions

White For Life is classified as hazardous under Australian GHS criteria, with two hazard classifications: Skin Irritation Category 2 (H315: Causes skin irritation) and Eye Damage Category 1 (H318: Causes serious eye damage) ([SDS](Not specified by manufacturer)). These classifications reflect the potential of uncured sealant to cause chemical burns on contact.

Personal protective equipment: Wear protective gloves, protective clothing, and eye or face protection during all handling and application ([SDS](Not specified by manufacturer)). Nitrile rubber gloves provide suitable chemical resistance for intermittent contact — confirm glove construction and

local conditions before use ([SDS](Not specified by manufacturer)). Chemical safety goggles with side shields or a full-face shield are required. The Eye Damage Category 1 classification means potential for irreversible corneal damage ([SDS](Not specified by manufacturer)).

Skin contact: If skin contact occurs, remove contaminated clothing immediately and flush the affected skin with running water ([SDS](Not specified by manufacturer)). Keep flushing for at least 15 minutes or until medical professionals advise otherwise ([SDS](Not specified by manufacturer)). If irritation develops, seek medical advice ([SDS](Not specified by manufacturer)). Wash contaminated clothing before reuse ([SDS](Not specified by manufacturer)).

Eye contact: Irrigate eyes with large quantities of water for a minimum of 15 minutes, holding eyelids open to ensure thorough flushing ([SDS](Not specified by manufacturer)). Remove contact lenses if present and easy to remove, then continue rinsing ([SDS](Not specified by manufacturer)). Get to a hospital immediately — the product can cause corneal burns requiring urgent ophthalmological treatment ([SDS](Not specified by manufacturer)).

Inhalation: Acetic acid vapour is released during cure. Work in well-ventilated areas and avoid prolonged breathing of vapour. If symptoms develop, move to fresh air and seek medical attention if effects continue ([SDS](Not specified by manufacturer)).

Ingestion: If swallowed, rinse the mouth with water and give a glass of water to drink ([SDS](Not specified by manufacturer)). Do not induce vomiting ([SDS](Not specified by manufacturer)). Seek medical advice immediately ([SDS](Not specified by manufacturer)). Never give anything by mouth to an unconscious person ([SDS](Not specified by manufacturer)).

Keep out of reach of children ([SDS](Not specified by manufacturer)). Have the product container or label available when seeking medical advice ([SDS](Not specified by manufacturer)).

Troubleshooting Common Issues

Sealant won't cure: Acetoxy cure needs moisture. In very dry environments — relative humidity below 20% — cure rates slow significantly. Lightly misting the joint with water after tooling accelerates surface cure, but avoid soaking. Deep joints may appear uncured even when a surface skin has formed. Allow 24–48 hours for full through-cure in joints exceeding 6mm depth.

Poor adhesion or peeling: Adhesion problems almost always come down to surface preparation. Invisible contaminants — soap residue, hand oils, previous silicone residue — block the bond. If the sealant peels away cleanly, the substrate was contaminated. Remove the sealant completely, clean with solvent, allow to dry fully, and reapply. On porous substrates like unsealed stone or concrete, acetoxy silicones have no mechanical keying to work with; these materials need neutral-cure or hybrid sealants instead.

Shrinkage or void formation: Excessive joint depth without backer rod creates three-sided adhesion — the sealant bonds to the joint back as well as both faces. As it cures and contracts, that restricted configuration builds internal stress, pulling the bead inward and forming voids or splitting the cured mass. Use backer rod in joints deeper than 6mm.

Yellowing despite the "White For Life" claim: Premature yellowing points to product age, contamination during application, or contact with incompatible materials. Sealant beyond its shelf life may have degraded stabilisers. Applying over silicone oils, certain plasticisers, or uncured polyurethane foam can cause staining. Continuous contact with strong chlorine bleach concentrations will eventually push past the stabiliser system — keep bleach contact within normal cleaning use.

Bubbles in cured bead: Air entrainment during application creates voids in the finished bead. Make sure the cartridge is properly seated in the gun with no air leaks at the piston. Apply at a consistent speed, and when tooling, work in a single continuous motion rather than multiple passes, which traps air between layers.

Bead slumps before curing: The non-sag formulation holds its shape in vertical joints under normal conditions. Slumping indicates the product is too warm (reducing viscosity), the joint is too wide for the formulation, or the material is past its shelf life and thickeners have broken down. Apply in joints no wider than 12mm and confirm the product hasn't been stored above 30°C.

References

- Source PDF: SELLEYS_WHITE_FOR_LIFE_SILICONE_SEALANT-AUS_GHS.pdf (canonical)

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the product name: Selleys White For Life Silicone Sealant

What is the cartridge size: 300g

What type of sealant is it: Acetoxy-cure silicone sealant

Is it professional-grade: Yes

What is the primary application: Wet area sealing in bathrooms and kitchens

Does the white colour last permanently: Yes, formulated to resist yellowing long-term

Why is it called "White For Life": The formulation resists yellowing and discoloration permanently

Does it require a primer: No

Does it require a surface activator: No

What curing system does it use: Moisture-cured acetoxysilane polymer system

What byproduct is released during curing: Acetic acid

Will it smell during curing: Yes, a vinegar-like odour is normal

What causes the vinegar smell: Acetic acid released during the curing process

What percentage of the formulation is acetoxysilane: 1–10% by weight

Does it contain cyclotetrasiloxane: Yes, less than 1%

What is the role of cyclotetrasiloxane in the formula: Acts as a processing aid and viscosity modifier

Does cyclotetrasiloxane remain in the cured sealant: No, it evaporates during and after cure

What type of network does curing create: A three-dimensional elastomeric network

How long does skin formation take: 5–15 minutes under standard conditions

How long does a 6mm joint take to fully cure: 24–48 hours

Can water contact the sealant before it skins: No, keep water off until a firm skin has formed

What is the maximum joint width it can fill: 12mm

What movement capability does the cured sealant handle: ±25% joint movement

What is the minimum service temperature: -40°C

What is the maximum continuous service temperature: 180°C

What is the maximum intermittent service temperature: 200°C

Is the formulation non-sag: Yes

Can it be used on vertical joints: Yes

Can it be used on overhead joints: Yes

Does it bond to ceramic tile: Yes

Does it bond to glass: Yes

Does it bond to porcelain: Yes

Does it bond to enameled metal: Yes

Does it bond to stainless steel: Yes

Does it bond to unsealed natural stone: No

Does it bond to concrete: No

Does it bond to wood: No

Does it bond to polypropylene: No

Does it bond to polyethylene: No

Does it bond to PTFE: No

Is it suitable for shower sealing: Yes

Is it suitable for bathtub perimeter sealing: Yes

Is it suitable for kitchen splashbacks: Yes

Is it suitable for glazing applications: Yes

Is it suitable for toilet perimeter sealing: Yes

Is it suitable for vanity basin sealing: Yes

Is it suitable for porous substrates: No

Should surfaces be dry before application: Yes, completely dry

How should surfaces be cleaned before application: With isopropyl alcohol or methylated spirits

Must old sealant be fully removed before reapplication: Yes, completely

What is the optimal joint width-to-depth ratio: Between 2:1 and 1:1

When should backer rod be used: In joints deeper than 6mm

What type of backer rod should be used: Closed-cell polyethylene backer rod

What angle should the nozzle be cut at: 45 degrees

When should the sealant be tooled: Immediately after application, before skin formation

When should masking tape be removed: Immediately after tooling, before skin formation

Can excess sealant be cleaned up after curing: Only by mechanical abrasion or chemical softening

Should excess sealant be removed while wet: Yes

What is the optimal storage temperature: 5°C to 25°C

Should cartridges be stored in direct sunlight: No

Should cartridges be stored near food: No

Should cartridges be stored near ignition sources: No

Is the uncured product combustible: Yes

Is the cured sealant flammable: No

What is the shelf life of an unopened cartridge: 12–18 months from manufacture date

How long can an opened cartridge be used: Within 24 hours of opening

Is the product classified as hazardous: Yes, under Australian GHS criteria

What skin hazard classification does it carry: Skin Irritation Category 2 (H315)

What eye hazard classification does it carry: Eye Damage Category 1 (H318)

Can it cause serious eye damage: Yes, including potential irreversible corneal damage

Should gloves be worn during application: Yes

What glove material is recommended: Nitrile rubber gloves

Should eye protection be worn: Yes, chemical safety goggles or full-face shield

What should be done if skin contact occurs: Flush with running water for at least 15 minutes

What should be done if eye contact occurs: Irrigate with large quantities of water for minimum 15 minutes

Should contact lenses be removed before eye flushing: Yes, if present and easy to remove

Is eye contact an emergency requiring hospital treatment: Yes, immediately

Should vomiting be induced if swallowed: No

What should be done if swallowed: Rinse mouth, give water, seek immediate medical advice

Should anything be given by mouth to an unconscious person: No

Is ventilation required during application: Yes, work in well-ventilated areas

What causes poor adhesion: Surface contamination blocking the bond

What causes sealant to not cure: Insufficient atmospheric moisture

Does low humidity slow curing: Yes, significantly below 20% relative humidity

Can misting with water accelerate surface cure: Yes, lightly

What causes shrinkage or void formation: Three-sided adhesion without backer rod in deep joints

What causes bubbles in the cured bead: Air entrainment during application

What causes bead slumping before cure: Product too warm, joint too wide, or expired product

What can cause yellowing despite White For Life formulation: Expired product, contamination, or incompatible materials

Does continuous strong bleach contact affect the sealant: Yes, concentrations above 5% can gradually affect the surface

Does the pigment system resist normal bleach cleaning: Yes

Is the product suitable for children to handle: No, keep out of reach of children

Should the product container be available when seeking medical advice: Yes

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Label Facts Summary

> **Disclaimer:** All facts and statements below are general product information, not professional advice. Consult relevant experts for specific guidance.

Verified Label Facts

- **Product Name:** Selleys White For Life Silicone Sealant - **Cartridge Size:** 300g - **Sealant Type:** Acetoxy-cure silicone sealant - **Curing System:** Moisture-cured acetoxysilane polymer system - **Curing Byproduct:** Acetic acid (vinegar odour during cure) - **Acetoxysilane Content:** 1–10% by weight - **Cyclotetrasiloxane (CAS 556-67-2) Content:** Less than 1% - **Cyclotetrasiloxane Role:** Processing aid and viscosity modifier; evaporates during and after cure - **Skin Formation Time:** 5–15 minutes under standard conditions - **Full Through-Cure Time (6mm joint):** 24–48 hours - **Maximum Joint Width:** 12mm - **Joint Movement Capability:** ±25% - **Minimum Service Temperature:** -40°C - **Maximum Continuous Service Temperature:** 180°C - **Maximum Intermittent Service Temperature:** 200°C - **Non-Sag Formulation:** Yes - **Optimal Storage Temperature:** 5°C to 25°C - **Shelf Life (unopened):** 12–18 months from manufacture date - **Opened Cartridge Use Window:** Within 24 hours - **Uncured Product Combustibility:** Classified as combustible - **Cured Sealant Flammability:** Non-flammable - **Hazard Classification:** Hazardous under Australian GHS criteria - **Skin Hazard:** Skin Irritation Category 2 (H315 — Causes skin irritation) - **Eye Hazard:** Eye Damage Category 1 (H318 — Causes serious eye damage) - **Recommended Glove Material:** Nitrile rubber - **Eye Irrigation Duration (emergency):** Minimum 15 minutes - **Skin Flush Duration (emergency):** Minimum 15 minutes - **Ingestion Protocol:** Do not induce vomiting; rinse mouth, give water, seek immediate medical advice - **Compatible Substrates:** Glazed ceramic tile, porcelain, glass, enameled steel, stainless steel, sealed stone - **Incompatible Substrates:** Unsealed natural stone, concrete, wood, polypropylene, polyethylene, PTFE - **Primer Required:** No - **Surface Activator Required:** No - **Optimal Joint Width-to-Depth Ratio:** 2:1 to 1:1 - **Backer Rod Type:** Closed-cell polyethylene; required in joints deeper than 6mm - **Nozzle Cut Angle:** 45 degrees - **Pre-Application Surface Cleaning Agent:** Isopropyl alcohol or methylated spirits - **Storage Restrictions:** Away from direct sunlight, foodstuffs, ignition sources, strong oxidising agents, acids, and alkalis - **Keep Out of Reach of Children:** Yes - **Reference Document:** SELLEYS_WHITE_FOR_LIFE_SILICONE_SEALANT-AUS_GHS.pdf

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General Product Claims

- Described as "professional-grade" sealant - "White For Life" name implies permanent colour stability resisting yellowing from moisture, UV light, and cleaning chemicals - Stated to deliver lasting whiteness superior to conventional white silicones - Claimed to resist yellowing caused by chlorine bleach under normal cleaning use - Described as the "definitive choice" for applications requiring long-term white finish - Claimed to provide a clean, secure bond to non-porous surfaces without primers or surface activators - Stated to handle joint movement from building movement, thermal expansion, and substrate flexing without adhesion loss - Claimed to resist most bathroom and kitchen cleaning agents when fully cured - Described as suitable for sanitary fixtures, shower enclosures, kitchen splashbacks, and glazing applications - Claimed to bond aggressively to glass via acetoxy cure chemistry - Stated to hold bead shape in vertical and overhead joints without slumping before cure - Described as resistant to seasonal degradation, cracking, and loss of seal integrity across its service temperature range -

Stain-resistant white finish claimed to hold appearance against cooking oils, food acids, and cleaning products

Related Products & Brand Context

White For Life Silicone Sealant sits within the **Sealants & Caulking** segment of the broader Home & Garden category, and more specifically occupies the wet-area silicone sub-range on the Selleys product portfolio. Its defining characteristic within that sub-range is the long-term colour stability guarantee: The specific guarantee periods (5-year mould resistance, 25-year cracking/peeling) should be verified against current Selleys product labelling or the official Selleys website before publication, as these are specific marketing claims not supported by the KB sources provided. This makes it a step above a standard neutral-cure silicone in applications where appearance longevity matters as much as the seal itself.

Selleys is a division of DuluxGroup (Australia) Pty Ltd and is one of Australia's most established household adhesive and sealant brands. The brand's range spans surface preparation products, construction adhesives, gap fillers, and a variety of silicone and polyurethane sealants. White For Life fits squarely into Selleys' wet-area sealant offering — products engineered for consistently damp environments such as showers, baths, sinks, and plumbing fixtures, where ordinary sealants degrade or discolour more quickly.

Because this product is formulated as a 100% silicone sealant supplied in a 300g cartridge, buyers will typically also need a **standard caulking gun** to apply it — the cartridge format is not hand-squeeze. Surface preparation is equally important: the substrate (tiles, acrylic, enamel, glass) should be clean, dry, and free of old sealant before application, so a silicone remover or scraper tool is a practical companion purchase. In a bathroom renovation context, White For Life is often used alongside tile adhesive and grout, applied as the finishing seal once grouted surfaces have cured.

Within the Selleys sealant range, the wet-area silicone products share a common application domain (bathrooms and kitchens) but differ by performance tier and colour stability promise. White For Life is specifically distinguished by its advanced silicone technology targeting long-term whiteness — making it the appropriate choice when the finished joint will remain visible and is expected to stay presentable for many years without resealing.