



# Zyklon B

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On **3<sup>rd</sup> September 1941**, **Nazis** first used [Zyklon B](#) to kill **Jews** at the [Auschwitz concentration camp](#) in Poland.

- Auschwitz was a [Nazi Germany](#) concentration camp in which almost **one million Jews** were systematically murdered.
  - Jews were **starved**, worked to death and killed in the complex of **gas chambers** using toxic gasses like **Zyklon B**.
- **About Zyklon B:**
  - Zyklon B is the commercial name of **hydrogen cyanide (HCN)**.
  - It was developed as a [pesticide](#) and **rodenticide** in the early 1920s in Germany.
  - It was produced as **blue-coloured pellets** that changed to an extremely **poisonous gas**, when exposed to the air.
  - Its inhalation led to **internal asphyxiation** of the victims by blocking the exchange of oxygen in the **red corpuscles** and impeding [cellular respiration](#).
  - Zyklon B became notorious during [World War II](#). **France** in 1916 and **Italy** and the **United States** in 1918 also used it during [World War I](#).

**Read More:** [Holocaust and World War II](#)

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