

Savings money by making your own cleaning supplies.
Easy on the wallet and easy on the environment.

To clean windows

mix 2 cups of water
1/4 cup of white distilled vinegar,
up to 1/2 teaspoon of Dawn in a spray bottle
It cleans windows beautifully

For floors

1 cup vinegar
1 gallon hot water

Bathroom cleaner

spray bottle
fill with 1/2 cup Dawn
fill the rest of the way with vinegar

Toilet cleaner

mix 1/4 cup baking soda,
1/4 cup Dawn,
1/4 cup water.
Let sit on the toilet bowl for a couple of hours, swish with a toilet brush, and flush.

All Purpose Cleaner

Spray Bottle
Mix together 1/2 cup vinegar
1/4 cup baking soda
2 gallons of water
teaspoon of dish soap to give a pleasant smell.

Homemade Dishwasher Detergent

- 1 cup baking soda or washing soda
- 1 cup Borax
- 1-2 drops of scented oil (optional)

Mix ingredients. Use like regular detergent.

Tough hand cleaner

- 1/4 cup Fels Naptha*, grated
- 2 Tbsp. fine sand or pumice
- 1 cup water
- 2 cup plastic container (16 oz. cottage cheese container works great)

Place soap and water in a saucepan. Place over low heat; stir until soap is melted. After mixture cools, add mason's sand or pumice. Store in a cottage cheese container or margarine tub. Dip fingers into soap mixture and lather hands. Rinse well.

Easy Drain Cleaner And Drain Opener

- 1 cup baking soda
- 1 cup vinegar
- 4 cups boiling water

Pour baking soda into drain and then pour vinegar on top of it. Let it sit for 30 minutes. Pour boiling water down the drain. You may need to repeat this process if your drain doesn't come unclogged the first time.

Tip: Don't throw away the baking soda used to freshen your fridge. Use it as a cleaning scrub or pour down your drain to clear clogs.

Burned Pan Cleaning Recipe #1

In the pan, place about:

- 1 inch water
- 1 Tbsp. baking soda
- 2-3 Tbsp. hydrogen peroxide
- 1-2 drops liquid dish detergent

Boil 10-15 minutes. Check it to make sure it doesn't boil dry. If necessary, just add a little more water.

Burned Pan Cleaning Recipe #2

In a pan, place:

- 1 inch of water
- dishwasher detergent tablet (1-2 Tbsp. powdered dishwasher soap)
- 1 Tbsp. baking soda
- 2-3 Tbsp. vinegar

Boil (don't simmer) 10-15 minutes.

Fruit and Vegetable Wash

1 Tbsp. lemon juice
2 Tbsp. baking soda
1 cup water

Put ingredients in a spray bottle. Spray on vegetables, let sit 5 minutes then rinse with a scrub brush.

Baking Soda Uses.

- Baking Soda is a miracle when it comes to stainless kitchen sinks and pots and pans. Sprinkle baking soda all around your sink and use a scrub brush to revitalize the shine. It removes tough sink stains as well.
- Use it in the pool to balance the PH levels and to create crystal clean water. 1 pound of baking soda is identical to one pound of pool alkalinity increaser. They are both 100% sodium bicarbonate. So, use the identical amount of backing soda as you would alkalinity increaser.
- Add ¼ cup to your laundry machine (along with detergent) and 1 tablespoon to your dishwasher (along with detergent) to boost the effectiveness of your detergent.
- Use baking soda on bathroom tile. Dilute it with a little water or vinegar and scrub.
- Open a box and set it in a musty area to help absorb odors.
- Use it to absorb odors from rugs. Sprinkle a little on your rugs and allow it to set. Vacuum thoroughly.
- Use it as a mild abrasive cleanser to scrub on baked on food.

Rubbing Alcohol Uses

- Grease collects in a kitchen, especially above your cook top. Clean your light fixtures and pot racks above the stove with a little rubbing alcohol on a cotton ball. Be careful to test a small inconspicuous area first. Rubbing alcohol can remove some types of paint.
- Clean your stove top components and parts of your toaster oven with rubbing alcohol as well.
- Rubbing alcohol can lift some laundry stains such as ink. Test first before blotting a small amount of alcohol on the stain. Finish by scrubbing the stain with soap and water.

Lemon Juice & Salt Uses

- Lemon Juice and Salt is perfect for cleaning copper pans. This green cleaning tip is priceless. It works so much better than commercial brands. I use it to clean my copper pots on a monthly basis. Lemons can be a bit costly, but this cleaning solution is far less expensive and less toxic than copper cleaner.
- You have to use real lemon juice. The type you purchase in the little plastic lemon doesn't work (when tested in my kitchen). Squeeze two lemons into a small bowl and add a teaspoon of salt. This is enough to clean one large copper pan.
- Use a mildly abrasive sponge to spread the mixture all over the pot and allow it to set for a moment. Let the lemon juice do all the work. Then polish the more stubborn stains. Wash the pots in soap and tepid water. Dry thoroughly.
- Lemon juice is also great for bleaching out stubborn stains on plastic cutting boards. Just spread the lemon juice over the stain and allow it to do all the work.
- Remove food stains such as tomato paste and red wine from dinner napkins. Fill a dish tub with cold water and detergent. Add three or four tablespoons of lemon juice. Allow the napkins to soak in the dish tub over night, then launder as usual.
- Don't throw out those lemon rinds just yet. Toss them down your garbage disposal and grind them. This cleans the disposal blades and releases a fresh lemony scent into your kitchen.

Hydrogen Peroxide Uses

- Hydrogen peroxide is sold in a dark brown bottle. It sells for less than \$1 a bottle. It loses its effectiveness when exposed to light. So, if you put it in a spray bottle, place hydrogen peroxide in a dark colored bottle.
- Spray on countertop and cutting boards to kill bacteria such as salmonella.
- Spray on bathroom tile to help fight mold. Wash and dry your shower or bath tile first, then spray on the hydrogen peroxide and allow it to set.
- Hydrogen Peroxide also lifts bloodstains in laundry. For best results soak the area in hydrogen peroxide and a little detergent. Then scrub and place in washer for laundering.

Vinegar Uses

- One of the primary uses for vinegar that most people are aware of is as a window cleaner. Just use water and a few cap fulls of distilled white vinegar for an easy cleaner.
- Use it to revitalize your coffee maker. First, wash out the components of your coffee maker. Next use vinegar instead of water and run your coffee maker. Next, run water through your coffee maker a few times to remove the vinegar smell. It brightens your coffee maker and improves the taste of future brews.
- Vinegar mixed with baking soda is also great for removing red wine stains from crystal decanters and glasses. Just mix the two together and allow the mixture to sit in the decanter for a few minutes. Rinse and 'voila' your decanter and glasses will sparkle once again!
- Vinegar with baking soda is also fantastic for removing soap scum and for cooked-in grease stains. For cleaning the oven and a ceramic stovetop, spray the surface with vinegar first. Put baking soda in a shaker and sprinkle over the entire surface. Let sit if the stain is very stubborn. But be aware, this, like any over cleaner can etch the surface. Check periodically; clean as soon as the grime comes up easily.
- Vinegar is also very beneficial in the laundry room. Soak perspiration stains in equal parts vinegar and water to remove the stains and add ½ cup of vinegar to your rinse cycle for brighter laundry.
- For a clogged iron, add equal parts water and vinegar to the steam chamber. Turn the iron on and allow it to steam for 5 minutes. Then allow it to cool and empty the chamber. You can also clean the metal plate of your iron with a mixture of vinegar and salt to remove the burnt particles that sometimes accumulate.