

6 Home Cleaning Recipes

Easy, Inexpensive, and Effective!

You can make your own household cleaning products. The ingredients are safe and inexpensive; the results are just as effective as conventional cleaners. The recipes below have been performance tested by the TURI Laboratory as indicated. These recipes performed well and ranked high for their safety. These alternatives to traditional commercial household cleaners are easy to make out of common household ingredients, will most likely cost you less than store bought products, and can work just as well, or even better!

ALL PURPOSE CLEANER - Recipe 1

- 2 cups water
- 2 tablespoons castile soap
- 2 teaspoons vinegar
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda

Mix ingredients in a spray bottle. Spray on surface. Wipe with a damp cloth. The damp cloth will remove the thin soap film. This is excellent in the kitchen to wipe the counter and cabinets, as well as inside the microwave oven. This recipe was tested by the TURI Lab and found to perform on the same level as Formula 409 All Purpose Cleaner.

ALL PURPOSE CLEANER - Recipe 2

- 2 tablespoons baking soda
- 2 cups warm water

Dissolve baking soda in warm water and pour into spray bottle. Spray and wipe with a damp cloth. This recipe was tested by the TURI Lab. It works on dirt, grease, fingerprints, soil, soap and waxes. You can use it on aluminum, brass, ceramics, chrome, copper, fiberglass, glass/quartz, plastic, and steel.



GLASS CLEANER

- 1 cup vinegar
- 1 cup water



Mix in a spray bottle, spray on glass surface, and wipe with a paper towel. This recipe has been tested by the TURI lab. It is effective on dirt, films, fingerprints, and soaps on both glass surfaces and chrome.

TOILET BOWL CLEANER

- 1/4 cup baking soda
- 1 cup distilled white vinegar



Mix 1/4 cup baking soda and 1 cup vinegar and pour the fizzy mix into the toilet bowl. Let it sit for a few minutes then scrub the bowl and flush to rinse. This recipe both cleans and deodorizes.

DUST-AWAY (Furniture and Floor Polish)

2 cups water
1/4 cup vinegar
1 teaspoon light oil (like olive oil)



Mix in a spray bottle. Shake bottle before spraying on a cloth or directly on furniture. Dry immediately. If desired, you can add 20 drops of essential oil to this recipe (or 3/4 teaspoon of pure extract). The oil is the conditioner and the vinegar is the cleaning agent. Use to clean kitchen cabinets and furniture.

FABULOUS FLOOR CLEANER

2 1/2 cups water
1/2 cup vinegar



Mix in a spray bottle. Spray the mix directly on the floor that you're going to clean and wipe with the mop or cloth. It works well on wooden floors, ceramic floors, and also on linoleum-type floors. This product is also recommended to clean surfaces after the use of another product that contains soap, such as the All Purpose Cleaner. It is excellent to fight mold and to eliminate bad odors, especially in the bathroom. For stains, use a small amount of baking soda and rub it. Use 20 drops of essential oil (or 3/4 teaspoon of pure extract), if desired.

TIPS FOR MAKING CLEANING PRODUCTS SUCCESSFULLY:

- ✓ Use white vinegar, 5% acidity.
- ✓ Use distilled water if possible.
- ✓ Never reuse any container that was originally filled with commercial cleaning products. Instead, reuse plastic water bottles.
- ✓ Always place a label on the bottle with the list of ingredients in the cleaning product.
- ✓ Remember that Vitamin E can be used as a preservative agent.
- ✓ Always choose the best quality ingredients to make sure the product will be effective.
- ✓ Use non-latex gloves.

NOTE: If you'd like to scent your cleaning products, you can do this with essential oils (such as lemon or peppermint). However, because these are usually not available in a grocery store, you can use pure extracts which are found in the baking aisle. Because extracts are more dilute than essential oils, you will have to use more in the cleaning recipes. The rule is that you'll have to use about 4 times as much. For example, if the recipe says to use 20 drops of essential oil, you would need 80 drops of extract. 80 drops of liquid is approximately equal to 3/4 teaspoon.

Other DIY options can be found at: www.turi.org/DIYCleaners



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