



Recipes for Household Cleaners

All purpose Cleaner I

4 Tbsp. baking soda

1 quart of warm water

Dissolve baking soda in warm water. Apply with a sponge. Rinse with clear water.

All-purpose Cleaner II

1 Tbsp. ammonia*

1 Tbsp. liquid detergent

1 pint water (2 cups)

Mix ingredients and put in spray bottle. Spray on surface. Wipe. Rinse with clear water.

*Ammonia is a toxic ingredient. Handle it with care and store it safely.

Drain Cleaner

½ cup baking soda

½ cup white vinegar

boiling water

Pour baking soda down the drain. Add white vinegar and cover the drain, if possible. Let set for 5 minutes. Then pour a kettle of boiling water down the drain. The vinegar and baking soda break down the fatty acids into soap and glycerin, allowing the clog to wash down the drain. Do not use this method if you used a commercial drain opener and it may still be present in the drain.

Recipes for Household Cleaners (cont.)

Lime and Mineral Deposit Remover

Soak paper towels in vinegar. Apply the paper towels to the lime deposits around the faucet. Leave them on approximately one hour. The deposits will be softened and can be removed easily.

Aluminum Cleaner

2 Tbsp. cream of tartar

1 quart water

To clean aluminum cookware, combine ingredients in cookware. Bring solution to a boil and simmer for 10 minutes. Wash and dry as usual.

Brass Cleaner

lemon juice

baking soda

Make a paste the consistency of toothpaste. Rub onto brass with a soft cloth. Rinse with water and dry.

Chrome and Stainless Steel Cleaner

Dip soft cloth in undiluted white vinegar. Wipe surface.

Oven Cleaner

Baking soda

very fine steel wool

Sprinkle water on oven surface. Apply baking soda. Rub using very fine steel wool. Wipe off scum with damp sponge. Rinse well and dry.

Toilet Bowl Cleaner I

Borax (Borax is a toxic ingredient. Handle it with care and store safely.)

lemon juice

Mix lemon juice and borax to make a paste about the consistency of toothpaste. Flush toilet to wet sides. Rub paste on the toilet bowl ring. Let it set for 2 hours and then scrub thoroughly.

Recipes for Household Cleaners (cont.)

Toilet Bowl Cleaner II and III

¼ cup full strength chlorine bleach **OR** ½ cup full strength ammonia
Do not use both—very poisonous when used together. Swish with a bowl brush and flush.

Windows and Glass I (To remove soil and grease)

¼ cup ammonia
2 quarts warm water
To prevent streaking, wash windows out of direct sunlight

Windows and Glass II (To remove hard water deposits and soil)

¼ cup vinegar
2 quarts warm water

Windows and Glass III (To remove extra heavy soil and grease buildup)

½ cup ammonia
2 cups rubbing alcohol
1 gallon water

Painted Walls and Woodwork I

¼ cup ammonia
1 gallon water

Painted Walls and Woodwork II

1 Tbsp. trisodium phosphate
1 gallon warm water

Painted Walls and Woodwork III

¼ cup liquid dish detergent
1 gallon warm water

Recipes for Household Cleaners (cont.)

To prevent streaking, begin washing at the bottom of the wall and work toward the top; wash ceiling last. Rinse thoroughly and change rinse water frequently.

Upholstery

¼ cup liquid dish detergent or laundry soap

1 cup warm water

With a hand mixer, whip until dry suds form (the suds will look like whipped cream). Test upholstery in an unnoticeable area by applying dry suds with a cloth or soft brush and lightly scrubbing. Allow to dry. If the area looks the same but cleaner, the entire piece of upholstery may be cleaned in this manner. Shampoo only a small area at a time and use a spatula or rubber scraper to lift off dirty suds. Repeat if necessary, then wipe area with a clean cloth dipped in clear water and wrung nearly dry.

Household Odors

To freshen room air, dampen cotton balls with oil of wintergreen and place out of sight but where air will touch them.

Candles, Telephones

Sponge with a piece of cotton dipped in rubbing alcohol.

Carpet Freshener

¾ cup baking soda

¼ cup perfumed talcum powder

Sprinkle on dry carpet, let stand 5 to 15 minutes, then vacuum.

Disinfectant/Mildew Remover

¾ cup chlorine bleach

1 gallon water

Dilute bleach in water. Apply to tile and grout and scrub. Wipe shower stall and curtain; rinse thoroughly.

Recipes for Household Cleaners (cont.)

Soap Scum Remover

Apply baking soda dry or as a thick paste, rub vigorously with a wet sponge, then rinse.

Sink

Sprinkle baking soda on a damp sponge, scrub, rinse. If the sink is stainless steel, clean it with baking soda, which is nonabrasive and won't scratch it. For a gleaming finish, buff with a few drops of vegetable oil on a paper towel.

Countertops

Sponge away grease with some rubbing alcohol. For stains, squeeze fresh lemon juice on the area and let it soak 15 to 30 minutes, depending on the stain.

Spray and Wash I

½ cup white vinegar

½ cup ammonia

½ cup heavy duty liquid detergent

½ cup water

Spray on grease or food spots or dirty collars and cuffs. Wash as usual.

Spray and Wash II

½ cup ammonia

½ cup white vinegar

¼ cup baking soda

2 Tbsp. liquid soap

2 quarts water

Mix well and shake. Pour into a pump type bottle. Spray on spots as laundry is sorted.