

# Green Cleaning Product Recipes

Reduce your reliance on chemical cleaners by making your own!

## Use conventional cleaners safely

1. Use cleaners in well ventilated areas.
2. Use cleaners in areas away from pregnant women, babies and young children, seniors, people with asthma, and others who may be sensitive.
3. Follow the manufacturer's use and storage instructions carefully.
4. Store all cleaners and other chemicals away from children.
5. Dispose of cleaners in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.


## If you choose to make your own cleaning products, take caution and follow these guidelines:

1. Only mix ingredients as directed by a reputable source. Avoid recipes with hazardous ingredients.
2. Never mix products containing chlorine bleach and ammonia, or chlorine bleach and a strong acid.
3. Avoid making more product than you can use at one time. This prevents you from having to store products.
4. If you store homemade cleaners, always label your containers with the product's intended use and contents.
5. Keep all cleaning products out of reach of children.
6. If a homemade cleaner is ineffective, stop using it rather than making large amounts.

## Alternate Cleaning Ingredients

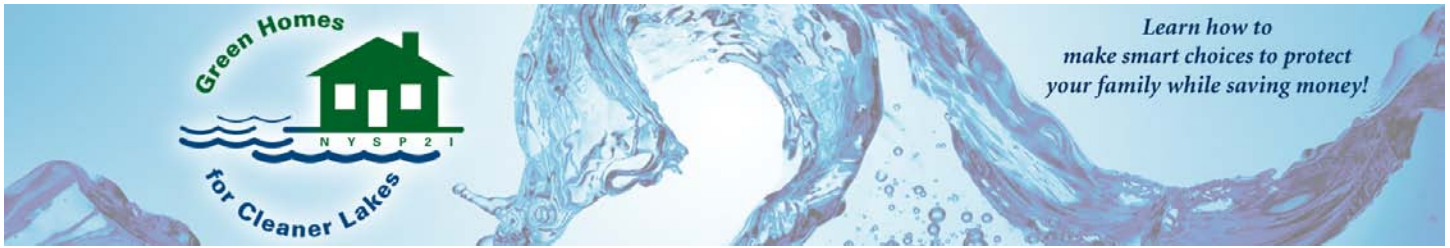
Ingredient	Purpose	Example
Baking soda	Clean, deodorize, water soften, scour	Clean toothbrush or hairbrush
Borax	Clean, deodorize, disinfect, water soften, clean floors, wallpaper, and printed walls	Alternative to bleach, boosts soaps, and removes stains
Citrus solvent	Cleans paint brushes, oil and grease, some stains	Use instead of paint thinner to clean painting materials
Cornstarch	Clean windows, polish furniture, shampoo carpets & rugs	Soaks up smell; sprinkle on carpet, let sit for 30 minutes, and vacuum up
Lemon	Fight household bacteria	Rub on smelly cutting board
Salt	Naturally abrasive	Scrub to remove mildew, pour on fresh carpet stains and vacuum it up
Tea Tree Oil	Antibacterial and antifungal	Multipurpose cleaners
White vinegar	Cuts grease, removes mildew, odors, some stains, and wax build-up	Remove grease from clothes, towels, carpets, rugs, kitchen surfaces



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## Homemade Cleaner Recipes

<b>All Purpose Cleaner</b>	<p>Mix baking soda and water together until they form a paste. Dip your cleaning cloth into the mixture and use to clean countertops, appliances, tabletops, bathtub, and tile. Rinse with clean water.</p> <p>Mix equal parts vinegar and water in a spray bottle. Add lemon juice for a fresh scent.</p> <p>Mix 15 drops tea tree oil to 1 quart water. Clean surfaces and rinse with clean water.</p>
<b>Disinfectant</b>	<p>Combine 1 part vinegar with 4 parts water and use on surfaces. Rinse well.</p>
<b>Window &amp; Mirror Cleaner</b>	<p>Combine 1/2 teaspoon liquid soap, 3 tablespoons vinegar, and 2 cups water in a spray bottle and shake well. Apply and wipe off with a sponge or rag.</p>
<b>Wood Polish</b>	<p>Make a mixture of 2 parts vegetable oil to 1 part lemon juice. Rub the mixture into the wood and let stand a few minutes. Polish with a soft cloth.</p>
<b>Air Freshener</b>	<p>Simmer water with cinnamon sticks, orange peel, or cloves.</p>
<b>Deodorizer</b>	<p>Sprinkle baking soda in the bottom of trash cans and place an open box or bowl in the refrigerator and around the house.</p>
<b>Carpet Refresher</b>	<p>Sprinkle baking soda lightly over your carpet. Let sit for a few minutes and vacuum normally.</p>
<b>Toilet Bowl Cleaner</b>	<p>Pour about 1/2 cup baking soda into the toilet bowl and sprinkle with about 1/4 cup vinegar. Let sit for about 30 minutes, then brush. Rinse by flushing.</p>
<b>Mold &amp; Mildew Remover</b>	<p>Spray mold with full strength vinegar. Let soak for a few minutes and clean with a soapy cloth. Rinse with clean water.</p>
<b>Tub &amp; Tile Cleaner</b>	<p>Apply full strength vinegar to a sponge and wipe tub and tile surfaces. Sprinkle baking soda over wiped surfaces. Rub with a damp sponge and rinse thoroughly.</p>
<b>Oven Cleaner</b>	<p>Spray water generously on the bottom of the oven and cover with enough baking soda to completely cover the surface. Spray or sprinkle water over top until the baking soda is damp. Let sit overnight. Wipe clean with a rag and use a sponge and liquid soap to scrub any remaining residue. Rinse all surfaces with water.</p> <p>Mix 1/4 cup baking soda, 2 tablespoons salt and hot water until a paste forms. Spread paste over surfaces and let sit for five minutes. Use a scrub brush to clean. Rinse with clean water.</p>
<b>Drain Cleaner</b>	<p>Pour about 1/4 cup baking soda into the drain. Pour 1/2 cup vinegar into the drain. The mixture will bubble. Let sit about 15 minutes. Pour 2 quarts boiling water down the drain. Repeat if necessary.</p>
<b>Laundry Whitener</b>	<p>Add 1/4 cup baking soda to laundry in addition to regular detergent. The baking soda will help brighten and whiten laundry and it will smell fresher.</p>
<b>Fabric Softener</b>	<p>Add white vinegar where fabric softener normally is loaded into your washing machine and do not use a dryer sheet. You may find that filling the spot about halfway is sufficient. If too much vinegar is used, it may leave a smell in your cleaned clothes.</p>