

# Homemade Cleaning Products

A compilation of found recipes and  
experiments

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For Good Health

An endeavor to remove toxic chemicals  
from our homes and environment. 2013

**Ant Killer**

2 tsp. Boric Acid  
1 Cup Corn Syrup  
1/4 Cup Hot Water

Add boric acid to the hot water to dissolve, add corn syrup and stir well. Pour into several small, shallow lids. Place in areas where ants are seen. Add more water to re-hydrate when needed.

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### **All Purpose Cleaner**

8 oz. Hot Water  
1 tsp. Borax  
½ tsp. Baking Soda  
2 Tbsp. Lemon Juice

Place in a spray bottle. Shake well before each use.

### **Carpet cleaner**

8 oz. Hot Water  
1/4 cup Borax  
1 tsp. Baking Soda  
1/4 cup Lemon Juice

Keep in a jar and use as needed for spot cleaning.

### **Mini Blinds Cleaner**

Dip gloved fingers into a solution of equal parts vinegar and warm tap water. Run your fingers across both sides of each blind.

### **Other ways to clean with White Vinegar**

Counter tops - clean with a rag and vinegar

Refrigerator - clean with half and half solution of vinegar and water

Plastic food containers - wipe them with a cloth dampened with vinegar to remove stains and smells

Lunch Box - place a slice of bread that has been soaked in vinegar inside and leave overnight to remove odors

Grease- use a sponge soaked in vinegar

Grill - spray a solution of half water and half vinegar on the cooking surface

Sponges - placing in just enough water to cover them, then add 1/4 cup vinegar. Let soak overnight

Grout - let full-strength vinegar sit on it for a few minutes and scrub it with an old toothbrush

Odors - place a bowl of vinegar in the room overnight

Cutting Boards - wipe wooden boards with vinegar

Dusting - use spray bottle filled with half vinegar and half water. Lightly spray a rag to dust all surfaces.

### **Glass Cleaner**

8 oz. Water  
8 oz. (237 ml.) Rubbing Alcohol  
8 oz. (237 ml.) White Vinegar

Place all in spray bottle and shake well.

### **Furniture Polish**

1 cup Olive Oil  
½ cup Lemon Juice

Place in jar and shake well before use.

### **Toilet Cleaner**

1 cup (or more) White Vinegar

Pour in toilet bowl and let sit for several hours or overnight. Scrub well with the toilet brush and flush.

### **Chrome and Silver Cleaner**

Any plain white toothpaste

Wipe on with clean cloth. Wipe off with another clean dry cloth.

Also works well on jewelry.

### **Wood Floor Cleaner**

½ cup White Vinegar  
½ cup Olive Oil

Place in jar and shake well before use.

### **Linoleum Cleaner**

Club Soda

Too easy!

### **Dishwasher Tabs**

1 cup Borax  
1 cup Arm & Hammer Super Washing Soda  
1/4 cup Epsom salt  
About 1/2 cup Lemon Juice  
You will need a few old fashion, plastic ice cube trays

Combine dry ingredients until well mixed. When everything is mixed, put 1 cup of the powder into a separate smaller bowl and then pour in a little bit of lemon juice. I use 4 Tbsp. lemon juice for 1 cup of powder. You don't want it to be dry but you don't want it to be soaking wet either.

The lemon juice will foam when it hits the powder, mix it all in, it will be a little sticky. Now you can put it in the ice trays and pat it down. You might want to measure the depth of your dishwasher's automatic dispenser to make sure the tabs won't be too tall for it. When all is done sit the trays in a sunny window for quicker drying. When the tabs are dry and hard just flip them out of the trays and store in a sealed container. Use as you would the commercial dishwasher tabs. I batch makes about 36 tabs.

### **Dishwasher Rinse Cycle**

White Vinegar

Place in your dishwasher's rinse cycle dispenser.

### **Tarnished Metal**

1/2 cup white vinegar  
1/2 cup table salt

Make a paste with the equal amounts and apply to tarnished areas.

### **Drain or Garbage Disposal Cleaning**

1 cup Baking Soda  
1 cup Hot White Vinegar

Pour the baking soda down the drain followed by the hot vinegar. Let stand for 5 minutes. Run hot water down the drain.

Note: Some garbage disposals do not react well to this, check all manufacturer instructions first.

### **Germs, Mildew and Soap Scum**

Use vinegar full strength to wipe surfaces, then wipe down with damp, clean cloth.

### **Hand Cleaner**

Wipe your hands with white vinegar to remove strong scents like onion and garlic, as well as stains from fruit juices.

### **Oven Cleaner**

1 small box Baking Soda  
1 cup White Vinegar  
1 cup Water

Sprinkle baking soda over bottom of oven. Place vinegar and water in a spray bottle and shake. Moisten the baking soda by spraying with vinegar mixture. Let set for several hours, re-moistening every few hours. Wipe clean with a damp cloth. Wipe oven again with a dry clean cloth.

### **Microwave Cleaner**

2 Tbsp. Baking soda or 2 Tbsp. Lemon Juice  
1 cup water

Place in a microwave-safe bowl. Microwave for 5 minutes or until the liquid boils and condensation builds up inside the microwave. Wipe clean.

### **Liquid Castile Dish Soap**

16 oz. Liquid Castile Soap  
20 drops Lime Essential Oil  
10 drops Sweet Orange Essential Oil  
5 drops Lemon Essential Oil

Place all ingredients in a 22 oz. squirt bottle and shake vigorously.

Use 1 to 2 Tbsp. per sink full of dishes.

### **Soap Shaving & Lemon Juice Dish Soap**

2 cups Soap shavings (shave a natural soap like Ivory with a cheese grater).  
½ cup Pure Lemon Juice  
Hot water

Place soap shavings into a bucket and add 3 cups of hot water. Allow the shavings to sit for 12 hours or until they're soft and easily mashed. Using a potato masher, squash the soap flakes. Add 1 Tbsp. of hot water at a time until the desired consistency is obtained. Pour the lemon juice into the bucket and stir well. Pour the mixture into a 22 oz. squirt bottle. Shake well before each use.

### **Laundry Soap**

4 lb. 12 oz. Box of Borax (2.15 kg. Or 76 ounces)  
4 lb. Box of Arm & Hammer Baking Soda  
3 lb. 7 oz. Box of Arm & Hammer Super Washing Soda  
3 Bars Fels Naptha Soap (or Zote Soap\*)  
Two small containers of Oxyclean (3.5 lb. Size)

Grate the bar and layer in a large container that can be sealed (I use a clean kitty litter bucket), pour in 1/3 of each ingredient. Layering them makes it easier to mix. Stir well and seal container.

Use one (1) Tablespoon per laundry load.

One batch of this laundry soap lasts me about a year, and I do a lot of laundry! It is safe for HC (energy efficient washers).

\*Sometimes I can find the Zote soap in a box already flaked - buy the equivalent of 3 bars of soap.

### **Laundry Bleach**

12 Cups water  
1 Cup Hydrogen Peroxide  
1/4 Cup Lemon Juice

Mix all ingredients and use 2 cups per laundry load. Shake well before each use. Also works well for general household cleaning.

### **Laundry Fabric Softener**

Epsom Salt  
Essential Oil - Your favorite scent

Basically add 10 drops of oil to 1 cup of Epsom Salt. I do 4 cups per batch.

For example: 4 cups Epsom salt, 20 drops lavender oil, 20 drops lemon.

Give it a quick stir and store in a sealed container.

Add 1/4 cup per laundry load and add it as the same time as your laundry soap.

For a stronger scent, add more oil.

### **Laundry Fabric Softener**

White vinegar

Add 1/4 cup during the rinse cycle.

Note: It works well but is not as good for static cling.