



Home Hacks Cheat Sheet

Easy Cleaning Hacks,
Tips & Tricks for a
Sparkling Home

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Natural Cleaning Recipes



DIY All-Purpose Cleaner Recipe

Recipe

- 1/4 cup vinegar.
- 12-20 drops essential oil.
- 1 tsp castile or phosphorous-free dish soap or washing soda.
- 2 cups boiled or distilled water.

1. Fill cleaning spray bottle with 2-4 cups (see below for variations on this recipe based on strength desired) distilled or boiled (cooled) water.
2. Add all other ingredients. Shake well.

Window/Mirror Cleaner

Recipe 1

- 1/4 cup vinegar
- 1 Tbsp corn starch
- 1 quart warm water

Mix ingredients in spray bottle.

Tip: Newspapers leaves a streak-free shine!

Recipe 2

- 3 Tbsp vinegar
- 1 quart water

Mix ingredients in spray bottle. For a stronger solution, mix half and half vinegar and water.

Recipe 3

- 13 Tbsp vinegar
- 2 cups water
- 1/4 to 1/2 tsp liquid detergent

Mix ingredients in spray bottle, shake up. Good for especially dirty windows.

Toilet Cleaner

Recipe 1 - Mild

- 1/4 cup baking soda
- 1 cup vinegar

Mix ingredients and pour into basin, allowing to sit for 3 - 30 minutes, Scrub with brush and rinse.

Recipe 2 - Moderate

- 1/2 cup borax
- 1 gallon hot water

Mix solution and scrub basin. Borax helps get rid of stains better than baking soda.

Recipe 3 - Strong

- 1 cup borax
- 1/2 cup vinegar

Sprinkle borax around basin and spray with vinegar. Leave overnight. Then scrub with brush. This cleaner is extra strength.

Mildew Cleaner

Recipe 1

- 3 cups hot water
- 1/2 cup vinegar
- 1/4 cup castile soap
- 1 tsp borax
- 1 tsp tea tree oil
- 1/2 tsp essential oil (optional)

Mix ingredients in spray bottle and shake gently. Spray and wipe.

Recipe 2

- - 1/2 cup vinegar
- - 1/2 cup borax

Mix with water and spray.

For Tough Stains

- 1/4 cup of bleach per 1 quart water

Spray, let sit for 15 minutes before rinsing.

For Mold

Use a stiff brush with castile soap and baking soda and scrub. Make sure to wear a mask and gloves because mold spores can be inhaled.





Natural Cleaning Recipes



Floor Cleaner

Recipe - Linoleum/No Wax Floors

- 1/4 cup washing soda
- 1 Tbsp castile soap
- 1/4 cup to 1 cup vinegar
- 2 gallons hot water

Mix washing soda with water before the rest of the ingredients. For extra polish, add 6 tablespoons cornstarch per cup of water.

Recipe - Wood Floors

- 1 cup vinegar per pail of water
- OR
- 2 Tbsp olive/vegetable oil
 - 2 Tbsp vinegar
 - 1/4 cup lemon juice

Mix together, spray, and mop.

Recipe - Laminate Floors

- 1/2 cup white vinegar
- 1 gallon warm water

Mix ingredients. Don't over wet floors. Instead, apply with spray bottle. Mop. Consider using a microfiber mop.

Drain Cleaner

Recipe 1

- Pour 1/4 cup baking soda followed by 1/2 cup vinegar.
- Cover and let sit for 15 minutes.
- Follow with 2 quarts boiling water.

Recipe 2

- Pour 1/2 cup borax in drain followed by 2 cups boiling water.

Recipe 3

- Use a plumber's "snake" with boiling water.

Wood Cleaner

Recipe 1 - Wood Cleaner

- 2 Tbsp olive oil
- 2 Tbsp white vinegar
- 1/4 cup lemon juice

Mix ingredients and rub into wood using a soft cloth. Rub in the direction of the grain.

Tips

- Rub toothpaste to remove watermarks.
- Mix 2 tsp lemon oil and 1 pint mineral oil in a spray bottle. Let stand several hours then polish.
- Melt 1 tbsp carnauba wax with 2 pints mineral oil.

Recipe 2 - Furniture Polish

- 1 lemon
- 1 tsp olive oil
- 1 tsp water

Make fresh for each use. Extract the juice from the lemon and mix with the oil and water. Apply a thin coat on wood and let sit for 5 minutes. Use a soft cloth to buff.

Kitchen Cleaner

Refrigerator Cleaner

- 2 Tbsp baking soda
- 1 quart warm water

Dissolve baking soda in water. Wipe down. You can also make a paste using less water to scrub more stubborn spots. A small, open box of baking soda will keep your refrigerator smelling fresh.

Garbage Disposal

- Grind ice with either used lemon, lime, or orange rind in the disposal. Ice also sharpens the blades of the disposal.

Cutting Board

- To sanitize cutting boards, spray with vinegar, then spray with 3% hydrogen peroxide (but don't mix together in one bottle). Let sit 10 minutes.





General Cleaning Tips



Metal Polishes

Recipe - Chrome/ Stainless Steel

- 2 Tbsp baking soda
- 1 quart water

Dissolve the baking soda in water, wipe on, rinse.

Recipe - Copper

Rub lightly with fine, non-iodized table salt wetted with vinegar or lemon juice.

Recipe - Brass

With a soft rag, apply with equal parts of salt, cornstarch, and a little vinegar or lemon juice. Rinse with warm water and mild dish soap.

Recipe - Silver

- 1 quart warm water
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 1 tsp salt

Line bowl with aluminum foil. Place silver in bowl and cover with boiling water. Add remaining ingredients and soak until tarnish comes off.

General Cleaning Tips For Everyday Tasks

Baby Oil for Stainless Steel:

Use baby oil to make stainless steel surfaces shine. It keeps them smudge-free.

Rubber Gloves for Pet Hair Removal:

Rubber gloves are great for picking up pet hair. Just dampen them and rub over the fabric.

Newspaper for Dusting Shelves:

Use newspaper to catch dust when dusting shelves. It keeps dust from falling on lower surfaces.

Trash Can Fresheners:

Add a few drops of essential oil to cotton balls and put them in your trash can. It keeps it smelling fresh.

Container Organization:

Clear containers are great for organizing under the bathroom sink or in kitchen cabinets.

Disinfecting Cloths and Sponges:

Soak cloths and sponges in hot soapy water, then in a disinfectant. This keeps them germ-free and ready to use.

Microwave Sponge Sanitizing:

Rinse your dish sponge, squeeze out water, and microwave it for 25 seconds.

Club Soda For Red Wine On Carpets:

Just dab it with club soda and the stain will vanish. This method is fast, cheap, and doesn't use harsh chemicals.

Steam Cleaning is A Top Choice For Your Microwave:

Mix lemon juice and vinegar with water in a bowl. Microwave it for a few minutes. The steam will break down grime, making it simple to clean. It's a thing that saves you time and effort.





General Cleaning Tips



Deodorizing Tips For A Fresh Space

Baking Soda on Carpets:

Sprinkle baking soda over your carpets. Let it sit for 10 minutes or more. Then, vacuum it up to deodorize and refresh your rugs. This method is a game-changer for keeping your floors smelling fresh.

Dryer Sheets in Shoes:

Tuck dryer sheets into smelly shoes overnight. This neutralizes odors and leaves behind a pleasant scent. It's a quick and easy Hack for freshening up footwear.

Perfumed Furniture Pads:

Spritz furniture pads with your favorite perfume or essential oil. Place them in drawers to keep your clothes and linens smelling amazing.

Dusting Solutions For A Cleaner Home

Lint Roller for Lampshades:

Ditch the duster and use a lint roller for dust and debris on lampshades. This Hack is fast, effective, and great for a quick clean.

Monthly Dusting Solution:

Mix a few drops of scented essential oil into your dusting solution. Your home will smell great, and the oil cuts down on dust.

Old Pillowcase for Ceiling Fans:

Put an old pillowcase over each ceiling fan blade to catch dust while you wipe. This keeps dust from falling on your floors.

Garden Tool Maintenance

Keeping gardening tools clean helps them last longer and work better. Here's how to keep them in top shape:

- 1.Clean tools right after use
- 2.Sanitize with rubbing alcohol
- 3.Store them in a dry, safe place
- 4.Sharpen blades often

Pro tip: Use quality sprays and rust preventers to make your tools last longer.





Laundry & Bathroom Hacks



Laundry Hacks

Whitening Clothes with Denture Tablets:

Brighten white clothes by soaking them in water with denture tablets for a quick and effective whitening boost.

Wrinkle-Free Clothes:

Toss a wrinkled shirt into the dryer with an ice cube and run it for 5 minutes to smooth out creases effortlessly.

Laundry Refresh:

Add half a cup of baking soda to your laundry cycle to keep whites looking bright and fresh.

Bathroom Hacks

For Stubborn Stains:

Sprinkle baking soda directly on the affected area. Mix a few drops of water to create a paste, then gently scrub and rinse.

Shower Door Seal:

Fight mildew by cleaning the shower door seal with a mix of dish soap and white vinegar or the paste listed on the next page*

Fog-Free Mirrors:

Stop fogging and make mirrors shine by buffing shaving cream into them.

Shower Cleaning:

Clean your shower quickly by mixing equal parts dish soap and vinegar in a dish brush. Use it while you shower.

Toilet Cleaning:

Start by dusting the toilet to avoid spreading wet debris. Then, wipe down all exteriors, including the handle. Use bowl cleaner inside and remove the seat for a deep clean underneath.

Mirrors:

Clean mirrors without streaks by turning off the lights first.

Shower Head:

Get rid of hard water stains by wrapping a vinegar-soaked paper towel around the shower head. Leave it overnight.

Denture Tablets for Toilet Stains:

Drop denture tablets into the toilet, let them sit for 10-30 minutes, then scrub to remove tough stains effectively.

Floor Cleaning:

Use a bucket and two towel method for bathroom floors, keeping one towel wet and the other dry for drying the floors.

In the Shower:

Use a squeegee after each shower to remove water from tiles and glass. This simple step helps reduce soap scum and mineral buildup.





Kitchen Hacks



Paste For Brightening Grout & Fixtures

Bringing back the shine of bathroom fixtures needs a special touch. Grout cleaning is tough, but the right methods can make tiles look new.

1. Create a paste of hydrogen peroxide and baking soda
2. Apply directly to grout lines
3. Scrub with a specialized brush
4. Rinse thoroughly

Kitchen Hacks

Sparkling Cutlery:

Add a piece of aluminum foil to your dishwasher for sparkling clean cutlery every time.

Fridge Freshness:

Clean out your fridge with a solution of water, white vinegar, and a splash of vanilla extract for a fresh, clean start.

Quick Oven Clean:

For a fast oven cleaning solution, rub a damp sponge with a dishwasher tablet to lift grease and grime.

Faucet Freshness:

Soak a cloth in vinegar and wrap it around your faucet to dissolve hard water stains.

Garbage Disposal Refresh:

Grind some ice cubes in your garbage disposal to keep it fresh and clean.

Sink Shine:

Use a leftover lemon half combined with salt to scrub and clean your sink.

Grime-Free Pots and Pans:

Boil a mixture of lemon and baking soda in your pots and pans to easily remove built-up grime.

Rust Be Gone:

Mix lemon juice with baking soda to remove rust from stainless steel surfaces or clean your sink.

Gas Stove Grates:

Easily clean your gas stove grates by using a scoring stick or pumice stone for a thorough and efficient scrub.

Stove Cleaning:

Save time and effort by using a scraper to tackle tough messes on your stove, cutting down on hours of scrubbing.

Lemon and Baking Soda for Rusted Pots and Pans:

These ingredients can do more than one thing! Use half a lemon sprinkled with baking soda to scrub rust off pots and pans. This method quickly removes rust and leaves your cookware looking new.

Fridge Drawers:

Line fridge drawers with paper towels to easily pick up crumbs and spills.



EXTRA TIPS:

Here's a breakdown of common household items and their multipurpose uses:

- **Vinegar:** All-purpose cleaner and deodorizer
- **Baking Soda:** Scrubber, odor neutralizer
- **Lemon Juice:** Stain remover, disinfectant
- **Club Soda:** Stain remover, surface cleaner

More Tips:

- **Vinegar and Water for Stainless Steel:** Clean stainless steel appliances with a simple mix of vinegar and water, then polish with baby oil for a streak-free shine.
- **Salt Cleaning Hacks:** Combine table salt with common household items to tackle stubborn stains and greasy messes.
- **Cinnamon Sticks in Vinegar:** Infuse vinegar with cinnamon sticks to create an all-natural cleaning solution that leaves your home smelling fresh and inviting—perfect for a Clean Lifestyle.
- **DIY Glass Cleaner:** Mix rubbing alcohol, vinegar, and water for a streak-free shine on windows and mirrors.
- **Drain Cleaner:** Use a baking soda and vinegar mixture to clear clogged drains naturally.

Cleaning Tools

- **Tennis Ball to Remove Floor Scuffs:** A clean tennis ball can help eliminate scuff marks from shoes on your floor.
- **Toilet Brush Drying Trick:** After using your toilet brush, place it between the seats to dry. This prevents mold buildup in the canister.
- **Microfiber Cloths for Cleaning:** Microfiber cloths are versatile and perfect for cleaning tasks. Use them with natural cleaning products for a sparkling clean home.

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Thank You

We wish you all the best on your journey!

reach out to us on instagram @forthe love of living1 and let us know what you want to hear more about!