

Do-It-Yourself | Cleaning Tips

There are hundreds of different cleaning products on the market, and most of them have ingredients that we have no idea what that is. Surprisingly, there are many products we already have in the home that can be used to take care of and clean things in our everyday cleaning routines.

Chlorine removes mold and moisture stains, makes almost everything white again and also disinfects and removes bad odors. Always remember that you must never mix chlorine with ammonia! Also, remember to use protective gloves when handling chlorine and ammonia to avoid skin irritations.

Corn starch cleans and removes bad odor from carpets. Before vacuuming, sprinkle on some cornstarch and let it work for about 30 minutes before vacuuming it off. A plus is that corn starch is an environmentally friendly cleaning product! The powder is ideal for cleaning greasy surfaces such as stove and kitchen benches. To make a cleanser, mix small portions of water with cornstarch to a smooth batter.

Lemon juice removes grease and stains from aluminum and porcelain, and also bleaches. For an all-purpose cleaner, mix equal parts of lemon juice and water in a spray bottle. This agent also acts as an effective bathroom and kitchen cleaner.

Vegetable oil can be used as a furniture polish. Simply mix two parts of oil with one lemon juice to clean processed wood.

Ammonia removes wax coatings from the floor and cleans windows with a minimum number of streaks. Take special care when handling ammonia due to the strong vapors. It is important to use both protective gloves and goggles as ammonia can burn both eyes and skin. Never mix ammonia with bleach such as chlorine!

Ketchup can be used to clean silver and copper. The acids and vinegar in the ketchup work well in the cleaning process of both metals silver and copper. Simply apply some ketchup to the item and polish with a clean cloth and see how the coatings magically disappear!

White wine vinegar disinfects and cleans windows, removes mold, wax and dirt coatings. This liquid has extreme cleaning strengths due to its high acid content and is also environmentally friendly. White wine vinegar can also clean copper, bronze and tin. Simply mix equal parts of distilled white wine vinegar and salt to a batter. In addition, you have flower flies flying around in the kitchen leaving a bowl in front with undiluted white wine vinegar.

Soda water can clean countertops and faucets, remove stains on textiles, act as a plant nutrient for plants indoors and outdoors, and restore hair color (after a dip in the pool, rinse your hair with soda water to stop the chlorine from discoloring your hair). For new stains on carpets, first dip everything you can out of the liquid. Then pour the soda water onto the stain and allow it to bubble, dipping dry with a clean towel or sponge.

Borax can be used as an alternative to chlorine as it prevents mold, removes stains and bad odors and can give an extra swing to the cleaning properties of your soap. Borax is both non-toxic and environmentally friendly! To make a disinfectant, mix two liters of water with half a deciliter of Borax.

Mineral oils can clean your sink and make it shine as if it were new. They can also polish kitchen cabinets and wipe away your children's messy fingerprints.

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