

**Tub and Sink Cleaner:** Sprinkle baking soda on porcelain fixtures and rub with a wet rag. Rinse well to avoid a hazy film.

**Window and Mirror Cleaner:** Pour a ¼ cup of vinegar in a 16 oz spray bottle and fill to the top with water.

**Dusting:** Use a slightly damp microfiber cloth. A cotton cloth will also work.

**Drain Cleaner:** Pour ½ cup of baking soda down the drain first, then ½ cup of vinegar. Let it fizz for 15 minutes. Then pour down a tea kettle full of boiling water. Repeat if needed.

**Oven Cleaner:** Do not use this cleaner on self-cleaning ovens. Mix 1 cup of baking soda with enough water to make a paste. Apply to oven surfaces and let stand a little while. Use a scouring pad for scrubbing most surfaces.

**All-Purpose Cleaner:** Add ½ cup pure Castile soap to 1 gallon of hot water. This solution is safe for all surfaces and is very effective for most jobs. Add ¼ cup of lemon juice for a fresh scent. For a stronger cleaner, double the amounts of soap and lemon juice.



Microfiber Cloth

#### Stain Removers:

- *Coffee and tea stains:* An equal mixture of salt and white vinegar.
- *Fruit and wine stains:* Immediately pour salt or cold soda water on stain and soak in milk before washing.
- *Grease stains:* Strain boiling water through white cottons and follow with dry baking soda.
- *Ink stains:* Soak in milk or remove with hydrogen peroxide.
- *Blood stains:* Immediately pour salt or cold soda water on stain and soak in cold water before washing.
- *Coffee and chocolate stains:* Mix egg yolk with lukewarm water and rub on stain.
- *Chewing gum:* Rub with ice.

**Before using any of these recipes first test them on an inconspicuous area to ensure that the surface you are cleaning will not be damaged.**



# Green Cleaning Recipes



## Healthy alternatives for day-to-day cleaning

5601 6<sup>th</sup> Ave. S, Suite 460

Seattle, WA 98108

(206) 512-3280

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## MAIN INGREDIENTS

**Baking soda:** Helps clean and deodorize, will act as a scouring agent, polisher, stain remover, and fabric softener. Use to clean plastic, vinyl, carpet, silver, stainless steel, and drains. Will absorb odors.

**Distilled White Vinegar:** Helps remove stains, wax build-up and mildew. Use to clean windows, fireplaces, grout, paintbrushes, glass, and coffee pots. May damage acid sensitive surfaces so test on a small area first.

**Pure Castile Soap:** Helps remove grease, and works wonderfully as an all-purpose cleaner. Make sure the soap does not have added fragrance.

**Washing Soda:** Helps clean laundry and fabrics.

**Herbal Tea:** Helps give refreshing scent to cleaning recipes.



### **Disinfectant:**

- Mix one part vinegar to one part water and store in a plastic spray bottle.
- Hydrogen peroxide can be used in small amounts but never mix with vinegar.

### **Powder Laundry Detergent:**

- Cut 5 bars of Castile soap into cubes and put in food processor or use cheese grater to make shavings. Then pour 6 cups of washing soda into a container and mix. When loading laundry use about 2 tbsp. of the mixture.
- Hydrogen peroxide based products are generally a better alternative than chlorine bleach to whiten clothes.

### **Softening Fabrics:**

*Never use vinegar and bleach together!*

- Add ¼ cup white vinegar to rinse cycle.
- Use wool dryer balls. You can even add a small amount of vinegar to your clothes in the dryer to help with static cling.

### **Furniture Polish:**

- Mix 1 tsp lemon oil with 1 cup vegetable oil. Apply with a clean dry rag.

### **Air Fresheners:**

- Dissolve 1 tsp of baking soda in 2 cups of hot water; add 1 tsp of lemon juice, and pour into a spray bottle and spray into air.
- Place a few slices of a citrus fruit, cloves, or cinnamon in a pot with water, and put on the stove at a simmer.
- Use baking soda in the area with the foul odor to help reduce odors at their source.

### **Scouring Powder:**

- Combine pure Castile soap with table salt or baking soda on the surface and scrub with a firm bristle brush.
- Baking soda alone on a damp sponge is also effective on most surfaces. Add herbal tea for a natural fragrance.

### **Floor Cleaner with Fragrant Herbs:**

- Combine in a bucket: 1/8 cup liquid soap, ½ cup white distilled vinegar or lemon juice, ½ cup fragrant herbal tea.



For information on where to drop off unwanted products contact the **King County Household Hazardous Waste Line** at (206) 296-4692