



# EASY AND SAFE CLEANING PRODUCTS for the home

Basic household items that also are useful for cleaning in the home:



- **Baking soda and Borax** – Cleans and deodorizes, also good scouring powders.



- **Plain soap (liquid dish soap or bar soap) without fragrances or antibacterials** – Safer, easy cleaner. Castile soap is a good liquid soap option.



- **White vinegar or lemon juice** – Cuts grease and smells fresh.



- **Hydrogen peroxide (3% solution)** – Works like a disinfectant.



- **Good scrub brush** or green scrubbing pad!

## CLEANING NEEDS

## SAFER ALTERNATIVE



### All-Purpose Cleaner

- Mix liquid soap and water (soapy water).
- Mix liquid soap with 1 tbs. of baking soda, then add lemon juice and water.
- Fill a spray bottle with ½ part vinegar and ½ part water, add some lemon juice for fresh scent.



### Window, glass and mirror

- *Indoors:* Use a little vinegar on some newspaper or a rag, and wipe.
- *Outdoors:* Use liquid soap and warm water and wipe with a sponge.



### Toilet Bowl

- Pour ¼ cup baking soda into a bowl and sprinkle with vinegar. Let sit for ½ hour, then brush.
- Mix ½ cup borax with 1 gallon of warm water. Works like a disinfectant and stain remover.
- Hydrogen peroxide (3% solution) mixed with castile soap and baking soda.



### Bathroom: sink, tub & tile

- Dilute 2-3 tbsp. of liquid soap or castile soap in water and clean with a good scrub brush.
- Bon Ami is a great scouring powder.
- Mix ½ cup baking soda with diluted soap.

For more information please visit [SFEnvironment.org](http://SFEnvironment.org) or call (415) 355-3700.

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## CLEANING NEEDS

## SAFER ALTERNATIVE



**Kitchen: countertop,  
floor & appliances**

- Soapy water or soapy water mixed with vinegar.
- Fill a spray bottle with ½ part vinegar and ½ part water.



**Mold and Mildew  
Remover**

- Soapy water.
- Let vinegar sit on mold, then clean with soapy water.



**Oven**

- Bon Ami is an effective, safe option.
- Make a paste with ¼ cup baking soda, 2 tbsp. salt and hot water. Let paste sit for 5 minutes and then use a good scrub brush.



**Wood Furniture  
Polish**

- Mix 2 parts vegetable oil to one part lemon juice. Rub mixture in and let stand. Then polish with a soft cloth.



**Air Freshener**

- Keep home and closets clean and well-ventilated.
- Simmer water with cinnamon sticks, orange peel or cloves.
- Sprinkle baking soda in bottom of trashcan.
- Insert cloves into whole orange.
- Place bowl of baking soda in refrigerator or around the house.



**Drain Cleaner**

- Pour ¼ cup baking soda into drain, followed by ½ cup vinegar. After 15 minutes, pour boiling water down the drain (2 quarts).



**Hand Soap**

- Plain soap, free of scents and dye color.

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