

Homemade Environmentally Friendly Cleaning Products

Homemade Window/Glass Cleaner

What you'll need:

- 2 cups of water
- ½ cup of vinegar
- ¼ cup rubbing alcohol 70% concentration
- Drops of essential oil (optional)

Combine all ingredients and pour into reusable spray bottle. Spray onto surface and use like Windex to clean windows and mirrors.

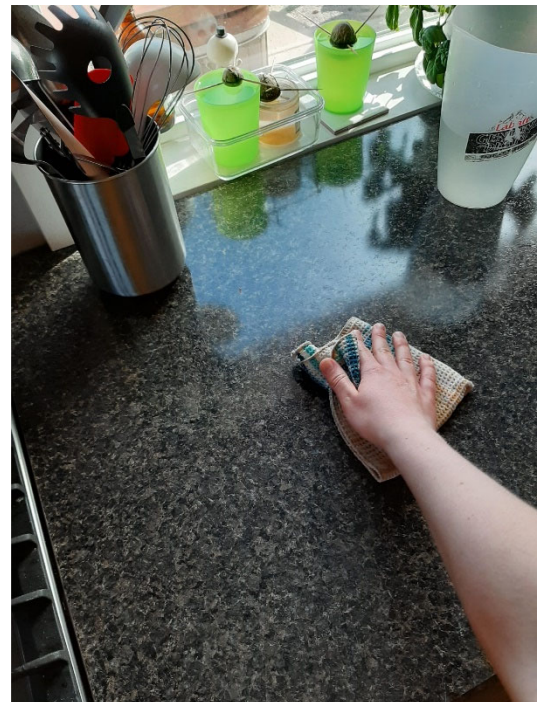


Homemade Kitchen Cleaner and Deodorizer

What you'll need:

- 4 tablespoons of baking soda
- 4 cups of warm water

Mix together water and baking soda. Use to clean all surfaces in your kitchen including counters, appliances, and your refrigerator. It can also be used to shine stainless steel. Make with a higher concentrate of baking soda for better results when trying to get rid of bad smells or remove spots from stainless steel.



Storing your Homemade Cleaning Products

Instead of going to a store and buying a new container, consider making your own stylish upcycle jars canisters. I made mine by removing label and washing out old food jars. I then painted the lids black and glued on a rock I painted gold for an ice finishing touch.



Environmental Benefits of Making Your Own Cleaning Products

Making your own cleaning products can do the job just as well as commercial products while have huge benefits. Not only can it save you money, but it can help save our environment too. Store bought cleans contain large amount of chemicals and toxins. These chemicals are harmful to plants and animals (yes that includes humans), and though people often say the benefits of household cleaners far out way the negatives. The repercussions of these products can't be ignored. While we spray chemicals around our house to make a safe and clean home for human habitation, other habitats, species, and ecosystems are suffering. The 2002 United States Geological Survey found persistent detergent traces in 69% of stream samples across the US. 66% of the samples contained disinfectants. These chemicals even reached into human drinking water. Chemicals in waterways and ecosystems can have obvious disastrous results. Much like into humans' chemicals and cause cancer, sickness, and developmental issues in important organisms. If chemical levels are high enough plants and animals can't survive. Commercially sold household cleaning products often have ingredients like Triclosan(kills very important tiny life that's critical in the aquatic food chain) , 1,4 Dioxane (easily leaches through soil to ground water) , Nonylphenol ethoxylates (highly toxic to fish causing heavy damage to gills), phosphates (can cause algae bloom which can lead to eutrophication), Phthalates (cause reproduction issues), QUATs or QACs (Don't easily degrade and will build-up harming ecosystems), Methylisothiazolinone (highly toxic), and many more. Homemade cleaning products use simpler safer but still effective substances that are safer for the environment. Products at home also reduces the amount of garbage entering our landfills.