

For Slow Drains, pour 1 cup each of baking soda, salt and vinegar down the drain, wait 15 minutes. Flush drain thoroughly with boiling water.

For Stubborn Blockages, use a mechanical drain opener such as a plunger or “snake”.

Graying Laundry: Add 1/4 cup of vinegar to the wash cycle.

Fabric Softener and Anti-cling: Add 1/4 vinegar to the wash cycle.

Perspiration Stains: Sponge stains with a weak solution of white vinegar and water. Launder as usual.

Wine or Cola Stains: Within 24 hours, apply white vinegar directly to stain. Wash and dry according to the manufacturers instructions.

Berry, Fruit juice, Grass, Coffee and Tea Stains: Soak in vinegar.

Scorch Marks: Rub lightly with white vinegar, then wipe with a clean cloth.

Chewing Gum: Rub full-strength vinegar onto the gum.

Baby Clothes: To break down ammonia and remove irritating soap residues, add 1 cup of vinegar to each wash load during the rinse cycle.

Washing Machine Freshener: Once a month pour 1 cup of white vinegar into your machine and run through the normal cycle, without clothes. Soap residues and musty smells will vanish.

Shoes:

Leather cleaner: Mix 1 tablespoon of vinegar, 1 tablespoon of alcohol, 1/2 teaspoon vegetable oil, and 1/4 teaspoon vegetable-based liquid soap in a jar. Saturate a sponge or cloth with the mixture and wash the leather. This works on shoes and other leather products.

Hair Brushes:

Soak hairbrush overnight in a bowl with 1/4 cup vinegar and enough water to cover. The next morning the residue can be wiped out with a rag or cloth.

Adapted from *Non-toxic, Natural and Earthwise* by Debra Lyon Dadd, 1990; *Clean and Green* by Annie Berthold-Bond, 1990 and brochures from Co-op Food Stores



Vinegar The Versatile Cleaner

An earth-friendly
cleaner that costs less!



Lake Sunapee Protective Association
Devoted to the Environmental Quality of the Watershed

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All-Purpose Cleaner

Formula

2 T white vinegar

1 Quart water

Use like any commercial cleaner. Add borax when scrubbing power is needed.

Non-Wood Floors

1 cup white vinegar in 2 gallons of water.

Tough Floor Stains

Apply undiluted white vinegar directly on stain.

Carpet cleaner

Mix 1/8 cup salt with 1/4 cup vinegar. Rub on with sponge. Let dry. Vacuum thoroughly.

Glass

1/4 cup vinegar

1 quart warm water

Put vinegar and water in a spray bottle. Spray windows, rub with a clean rag and dry with newspapers.



Metal & Chrome:

Rub with a rag, dampened with vinegar. Wipe with a water-wet rag and polish with a soft cloth.

Brass and Copper:

Make a paste of vinegar and salt, or vinegar and baking soda. Rub on with a soft cloth, rinse with water and dry.

Woodwork

1 Tbs. white vinegar

1 Quart lukewarm water

Mix in an empty jar. Rub dull and cloudy woodwork and furniture with a soft cloth, moistened with this solution. Buff with a soft, dry cloth.

White rings left by wet glasses: Rub with a mixture of equal parts of olive oil and white vinegar and they will disappear.

Scratches on Dark Wood: Put a few drops of vinegar in a small bowl. Add enough iodine to approximate the color. Rub into the scratch with a cloth or toothpick.

Wood Furniture Dusting Cloth: Mix 1/2 teaspoon olive oil with 1/4 cup of vinegar in a bowl. Dab a soft cloth in the solution, squeeze to eliminate excess liquid. Dust, polish and shine your wooden furniture.

Dishwashers

To remove soapy film on glassware and on the inside of your machine, place one cup of white vinegar on the bottom rack of your dishwasher, run for five minutes, then run through a full cycle.

Hard Water Spots: (on glass, faucets, or shower curtains)

1 Tbs. alum

3 Tbs. vinegar

2 cups hot water

Combine in a spray bottle, shake until alum is dissolved. Spray on and leave to loosen deposits. Rinse thoroughly

Toilet Bowl

1 cup Borax

1/4 cup vinegar

Pour ingredients into bowl and let rest for a few hours, then scrub with a toilet brush. Flush

Ceramic Tile

Mix 1/4 cup baking soda, 1/2 cup of vinegar and wash floor with mop or sponge. Buff with a clean damp cloth.

Shower Curtain

Mold Remover

1/4 cup vinegar

1/4 cup borax

Combine the ingredients to make a paste and scrub well on shower curtain using a sponge or soft brush. Rinse well.