

Cleaning Silver

aluminum foil strips
1 Tbls. rock salt

Fill a glass jar 1/2 full with strips of aluminum foil. Add rock salt and cold water to the top of the jar. Place silver items in jar and leave, covered, for 2 minutes. Rinse the silver well and dry.

Oven Cleaner

vinegar, salt
baking soda,
steel wool

Before the oven cools completely, sprinkle salt on any spills. if spill is dry, wet the spill lightly and then sprinkle with salt. When oven is completely cool, scrape away the spill and wash the area.

Grease buildup can be halted by wiping your oven with a wet cleaning rag of vinegar and water.

For tough spots, sprinkle with water, followed by a layer of baking soda. Scrub gently with extra fine steel wool. Rinse well and dry.

Proper Paint Disposal

Solvent-based paints

Also known as alkyd or oil-based, these paints are ignitable and should NOT be poured down storm sewers, household drains, or on the ground. Hold them for "Household Hazardous Waste Collection" days.

Latex paints

These paints can be left to dry out in the can. Remove the lid and allow the can to sit in an area away from pets or children. When completely dry, dispose with household trash.

Other Alternatives

Buy only the amount of paint needed. Give leftover paint to someone who can use it such as theater groups or community groups. Use up all the paint by applying another coat or use for touch ups.

Proper Automotive Product Disposal

Batteries:

It's illegal to throw spent lead-acid batteries in the trash. Trade in the old battery when buying the new one. Find a shop that will accept old batteries.

Motor Oil:

Some service stations and some community recyclers will accept used motor oil. You may have to check around, this is becoming a less-common service in many communities.

Antifreeze:

Amounts less than 1 gallon can be poured down the drain with LOTS of water. (Do not use this method of disposal with septic systems.)

All-Purpose Cleaner

vinegar
salt

Mix together for a good all-purpose surface cleaner.

4 Tbls. baking soda
1 quart warm water

Mix together to make a general cleaner; or use baking soda on a sponge.

Drain Cleaners and Drain Openers

1/2 C. baking soda
1/2 C. white vinegar
boiling water

Pour the soda down the drain. Add the vinegar and, if possible, cover the drain. Let sit for 5 minutes, then pour a kettle of boiling water down the drain to clear it out. Repeat the procedure as necessary.



Do not use this method after any commercial drain opener has been used or is still present in the standing water!

Toilet Bowl Cleaner

baking soda
vinegar

Sprinkle baking soda around the inside of the toilet bowl. Follow by drizzling with vinegar. Scour with toilet brush. This mixture will clean and deodorize.

For stubborn stains, mix borax and lemon juice into a paste and apply. Let stand for several hours, then scrub thoroughly.



Never mix bleach with vinegar, toilet bowl cleaner, or ammonia!

Tub and Tile Cleaner

vinegar
baking soda

To remove film buildup on tubs, apply full-strength vinegar to a sponge and wipe area to be cleaned. Then, sprinkle on baking soda as you would scouring powder. With a damp sponge, scrub, then rinse completely with fresh water.

Cleaning Hints

Dishes:

To cut grease, and to keep spots off of your dishes, add 1 to 3 tablespoons of vinegar to your dishwater.

Hard-Water-Area Cleaning

The high mineral content of hard water leaves a residue. Vinegar and lemon juice are good acids for cleaning this mineral buildup. Adding these to your cleaning recipes will help your fight against hard water stains.

Spray Bottles:

Minerals such as borax, baking soda, and washing soda can clog spray bottles unless they are completely dissolved with very hot water.

Laundry tips

Fabric Softener & Anti-Cling:

Add 1/4 cup of vinegar to your wash cycle.

Prevent Lint:

Add 1/4 cup vinegar or lemon juice to rinse cycle.

To increase the performance of soap, add any of the following ingredients to the wash cycle. To protect against clothes becoming grayish, also add the same amount of the ingredient to the rinse cycle. To a full load, add:

1/2 cup baking soda
1/4 cup vinegar
1 tablespoon zeolite

1/4 cup borax
1/2 cup washing soda

Spray Cleaner

**1 tsp. borax, 1/2 tsp. washing soda,
2 Tbls. vinegar or lemon juice,
1/4-1/2 tsp. vegetable-oil-based liquid
soap, 2 cups very hot tap water,
spray bottle**

Combine borax, washing soda, vinegar & liquid soap in spray bottle. Add very hot tap water, shaking gently until the minerals have dissolved. Spray onto the area to be cleaned and wipe off with a sponge, rag, or cellulose sponge cloth.

Wood Furniture Dusting Cloth

**1/2 tsp. olive oil
1/4 cup vinegar or lemon juice**

Mix the olive oil and vinegar (substitute lemon juice for a lemon scent) in a bowl. Dab a soft cotton rag into the solution and use it to dust, polish, and shine your wooden furniture. You will be able to reuse this rag over and over again.

Recipes for a Safer Home

Tips on how to dispose of, or to avoid using, some pretty dangerous household hazardous substances in your own home.

Courtesy of:



One Hazelwood Drive
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