Rid your home of the chemicals and petroleum-based ingredients found in most cleaning products by making your own. Tested by the Queen of Green, these homemade cleaners are versatile, affordable, and eco-friendly.

**TIP** Label your finished products and store them safely away from children and pets.

**NOTE** Washing soda, or sodium carbonate, is more caustic and has a higher pH than its cousin, baking soda.

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**Liquid laundry soap**

*Use ½ cup per full load*

- 7 L water
- 1 cup soap granules
- ½ cup baking soda
- ½ cup washing soda
- 20 drops essential oil (optional)

Add 1 L water and soap granules to pot. Heat until diluted. Pour into pail with 6 L water, baking soda, and washing soda. Stir until dissolved. Add essential oil. Soap will gel as it cools.

For hard water, add more washing soda.

**NOTES**

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**Borax-free liquid laundry soap**

*Use ½ cup per full load*

- 7 L hot water
- 1 cup baking soda
- 1 cup liquid castile soap
- ½ cup coarse salt

Dissolve dry ingredients in hot water. Add soap and stir.

**NOTES**

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**Powdered laundry soap**

*Use 1–2 Tbsp per load*

- 1 cup soap granules
- ½ cup baking soda
- ½ cup washing soda
- 10 drops essential oil (optional)

Combine dry ingredients. Stir in essential oil.

**TIP** To soften fabrics, pour 1 cup white vinegar into rinse cycle (not the wash cycle).

**NOTES**

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Essential oils are optional; avoid them if you are sensitive to scents. Lemon, orange, lime, grapefruit, tea tree, thyme, lemongrass, lavender, rosemary and eucalyptus oils have antibacterial, antifungal and/or grease-cutting powers. More tips and recipes at queenofgreen.ca
### All-purpose spray

**For tubs, tiles, counters, microwaves, floors, etc.**

| 1 gallon | hot water |
| ½ cup    | liquid castile soap |
| 10 drops | essential oil (optional) |

Combine all ingredients. Pour into spray bottle.

**TIP** Thyme essential oil is a powerful weapon against germs.

### Glass and mirror cleaner

**Wipe with newspaper to avoid streaks**

| ½ cup    | white vinegar |
| ½ cup    | water         |

Pour into spray bottle.

**TIP** Before switching to this green cleaner, clean up the waxy residue traditional brands leave behind with a 5% rubbing alcohol-to-water-solution.

### Furniture polish

Since wood finishes vary, always do a test patch

| 2 cups   | warm water  |
| 2 tbsp   | olive oil   |
| 2 tbsp   | white vinegar (or lemon juice) |

Pour into spray bottle. Shake well, spray, rub, and polish with rag.

### All-purpose scour

**A non-abrasive for tubs, tiles, sinks, etc.**

| 1 ¾ cups  | baking soda |
| ½ cup     | liquid castile soap |
| ½ cup     | water        |

Combine. Pour into squirt bottle and shake before use. Rinse well.

### All-purpose powder

As effective in dishwashers as it is on toilets

| ½ cup    | baking soda |
| ½ cup    | washing soda |
| ½ cup    | white vinegar |

Combine dry ingredients. For toilet: sprinkle onto surface, scrub, and chase with vinegar. For dishwasher: add dry ingredients to soap dispenser and vinegar to rinse dispenser.

### Stainless steel cleaner

Removes smudges from stainless steel appliances

| 1 Tbsp   | olive oil |
| 1 Tbsp   | white vinegar |

Drip olive oil onto rag. Rub surface to get rid of smudges. Drip white vinegar on the other side of rag. Wipe and let dry.