Many people believe that homemade cleaners are not effective. Sometimes you may need to put in a little extra elbow grease, or let the cleaner sit for a bit, but homemade cleaners can be just as effective as conventional ones! Besides a clean home, the benefits include saving money, protecting the health of everyone in your home, and protecting the environment. Tip: Want your cleaners to smell better? Add lemon juice or essential oils.

### All Purpose Cleaner
(Possible uses include: countertops/plastic chairs/toys/refrigerator/microwave/walls/stove)

**Supplies/Ingredients needed:**
- ½ cup vinegar
- ¼ baking soda
- ½ gallon hot water

Mix ingredients in spray bottle. For very light jobs, you can also just use baking soda with water or ½ cup vinegar with 1 quart water.

### Refrigerator Cleaner

**Supplies/Ingredients needed:**
- 2 tbsp baking soda
- 1 quart warm water

Dissolve baking soda and water. Wipe down. You can also make a paste out of the baking soda and water for more stubborn spots. A small opened box will keep the refrigerator smelling fresh.

### Window and Mirror Cleaner

**Supplies/Ingredients needed:**
- 3 tbsp vinegar
- 1 quart water

Mix ingredients in spray bottle. For a stronger solution, mix half and half vinegar and water.

### Oven Cleaner

**Supplies/Ingredients needed:**
- ¼ cup baking soda
- 2 tbsp salt

Mix in hot water as needed to make a paste. Let paste sit for 5 minutes. Don't use on wires or heating elements.

### Drain Cleaner

**Supplies/Ingredients needed:**
- ¼ cup baking soda
- ½ cup vinegar
- 2 quarts boiling water

Pour ¼ cup baking soda followed by ½ cup vinegar. Cover and let sit for 15 minutes. Follow with 2 quarts boiling water.

### Wood Cleaner

**Supplies/Ingredients needed:**
- 2 tbsp olive oil
- 2 tbsp white vinegar
- ¼ cup lemon juice

Mix ingredients and rub into wood using a microfiber cloth. Rub in the direction of the grain.
### Floor Cleaner

**Wood Floors**

**Supplies/Ingredients needed:**
- 1 cup vinegar per pail of water
  - OR
- 2 tbsp olive/vegetable oil
- 2 tbsp vinegar
- ¼ cup lemon juice

Mix together, spray and mop.

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### Laminate Floors

**Supplies/Ingredients needed:**
- ½ cup white vinegar
- 1 gallon warm water

Mix ingredients. Don't over wet floors. Instead, apply with spray bottle. Mop. (Consider using a microfiber mop.)

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### Laminate/No Wax Floors

**Supplies/Ingredients needed:**
- ½ cup baking soda
- 2 gallons hot water
- 1 tablespoon dish soap
- ¼ cup vinegar

Allow the baking soda to dissolve in the water, and when it's almost full, add 1 tablespoon of dish soap. Adding the soap too early can lead to lathery water that will leave unwanted marks on floors. When you have 2 gallons of hot water, you can add the ¼ cap of vinegar and you're ready to mop.

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### Toilet Cleaner Recipe 1 (mild)

**Supplies/Ingredients needed:**
- ½ cup baking soda
- 1 cup vinegar

Mix ingredients and pour into basin, allowing to sit for 3 minutes to a half hour. Scrub with brush and rinse.

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### Toilet Cleaner Recipe 2 (stronger)

**Supplies/Ingredients needed:**
- ½ cup borax
- 1 gallon hot water

Mix solutions and scrub basin. Borax helps get rid of stains better than baking soda.

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### Alternatives to Using Bleach

These cleaners are a safe alternative to household bleach and can be purchased online. If you do not want to make your own cleaners, these are a good option.

**RECOMMENDED PRODUCTS**

**How to use:**

**Disinfectant**

- Use on the following surfaces:
  - Diaper changing tables
  - Sinks
  - Toilets
  - Activity tables
  - Disposable diaper containers
  - Any area where bodily fluid spills occur

**Food contact sanitizer**

- Use on the following food contact surfaces:
  - Snack tables
  - Meat tables
  - Highchair tables

**Note:** Make sure to search for SaniDate RTU. This is NOT the same as SaniDate 5.0, which contains an ingredient that increases asthma symptoms.