



## Greener Cleaner

Reasons to use less toxic products:

- Your health and the health of those around you will benefit
- The environment will be less burdened and depleted
- You will save money and feel more resourceful
- Most are safer to store and dispose of (Keep borax and essential oils out of the reach of children)

Agent	Properties	Action	Combinations	Warnings
<b>Baking soda</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mildly alkaline</li> <li>• Neutralizes weak acids</li> <li>• Mild abrasive</li> <li>• Absorbs odours</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water softener</li> <li>• Room freshener</li> <li>• Powder cleaner</li> <li>• Stain remover</li> </ul>	Highly effective cleaner when mixed with mild acids such as vinegar or lemon. Mild abrasive for porcelain and steel.	None. Food Product.
<b>Borax</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Naturally occurring mineral salt</li> <li>• Makes mild alkaline solution in water</li> <li>• Mild bleach</li> <li>• Loosens grease and dirt from surfaces</li> <li>• Disinfects</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disinfectant</li> <li>• Detergent</li> <li>• Water softener</li> <li>• Stain remover</li> </ul>	<p>Borax and warm water as a stain remover. Add glycerin &amp; liquid castile soap for added effectiveness.</p> <p>Borax and baking soda are effective bathroom cleaners.</p>	<p>Store safely: Toxic to humans and pets if swallowed or absorbed through skin.</p> <p>Skin &amp; eye irritant. Avoid skin contact &amp; wear gloves</p> <p>Do not reuse greywater.</p>
<b>Clove oil</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Powerful antifungal agent</li> <li>• Anti-bacterial</li> <li>• Mild analgesic</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mould remover</li> <li>• Toothache treatment</li> <li>• Insect repellant</li> </ul>	In bathroom cleaners, shower curtains etc. Leave on to maximise disinfectance.	Possible skin and eye irritant when undiluted.
<b>Cream of tartar</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mildly acid</li> <li>• Leavening agent when mixed with baking soda to make baking powder</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stain remover</li> </ul>	Effective as a paste with warm water on collar grime and rust stains on fabric.	None. Food product.
<b>Essential oils</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anti-bacterial: Lemon, pine, lavender citronella, citrus oils (lemon, orange)</li> <li>• Anti-fungal: eucalyptus, pine, patchouli, sandalwood, lemon, clove</li> <li>• Grease cutting: citrus oils</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disinfectants</li> <li>• Fresh fragrance</li> </ul>	In various cleaners	<p>Undiluted oils can irritate skin. Use pure essential oils in dark glass bottles, not artificial oils. Use only 2-3 of drops at a time.</p>
<b>Eucalyptus oil</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anti-fungal</li> <li>• Antiseptic disinfectant</li> <li>• Deodorizer</li> <li>• Solvent and stain removal</li> <li>• Insect repellant</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disinfectant</li> <li>• In detergents</li> <li>• Removing adhesives</li> <li>• Stain remover</li> </ul>	<p>Use neat on adhesive labels.</p> <p>Rub on rusted chrome then rub rust away with aluminium foil.</p> <p>Add to cleaners to add shine to</p>	<p>Toxic when undiluted. Highly toxic if swallowed.</p> <p>Store safely.</p>

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Agent	Properties	Action	Combinations	Warnings
			porcelain sinks and baths.	
<b>Glycerin</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Viscous liquid</li> <li>Solvent</li> <li>Preservative</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Loosens stains</li> <li>Basis for soaps for sensitive skin</li> </ul>	Add to other cleaning products to shift stubborn stains.	None. Food product.
<b>Lemons</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Acidic</li> <li>Mild bleaching agent</li> <li>Antibacterial</li> <li>Cuts grease</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Disinfectant</li> <li>Bleaching stains</li> <li>Deodorising, eg fridge</li> </ul>	Combine with alkalines for cleaning strength (borax, baking soda or washing soda). Use with salt as a scourer.	Food product. Irritant for eyes, broken skin. Don't use acids on marble.
<b>Pure soap (Castile soap or Lux)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Castile Soap: pure soap made from olive oil &amp; coconut oil. Contains no animal fats</li> <li>Lux: pure soap containing animal fats</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>mild detergent for clothes and delicate items</li> </ul>	Use with glycerin and borax for a pre-wash stain treatment.	Suitable for sensitive skins
<b>Salt</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>abrasive</li> <li>absorbent</li> <li>effective against protein stains (eg: egg, blood)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stain removal</li> <li>Reduces colour leaching</li> </ul>	Particularly effective combined with lemon juice	Food product. Mild irritant (and disinfectant) for broken skin.
<b>Soda water</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carbonation (bubbling) can lift stains</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stain removal</li> </ul>	Apply directly to fresh spills on carpets and textiles to lift and reduce staining.	None. Food product.
<b>Tea tree oil</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anti-fungal and antibacterial</li> <li>Deters head lice</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kills bathroom mould.</li> <li>Add a few drops to children's shampoos to avoid lice infestations</li> </ul>	Add to bathroom cleaners to inhibit mould.	Highly toxic for cats.
<b>Washing soda</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alkaline</li> <li>Makes up the main part of most commercial washing powders</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Laundry powders and liquids</li> </ul>	Use as a base for washing powders (note: fine crystals dissolve more easily)	All sodas are less suitable for greywater reuse as they are sodium based, ie, high in salts.
<b>White Vinegar</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mildly acidic</li> <li>Antifungal</li> <li>Antiseptic</li> <li>Deodorizer</li> <li>Bleaches</li> <li>Neutralizes greases</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Powerful cleaner with baking soda</li> <li>Reduces yellowing of white clothes</li> <li>Mould remover and inhibitor</li> </ul>	Use with mild alkalines, eg baking soda. Vinegar & baking soda react to form a mildly volatile carbonic acid that is a highly effective cleaner while the mixture bubbles.	Do not use acids on marble. Do not use on aluminium. Food Product. Irritates eyes. Safe for steel, porcelain, tiles and enamel white goods