

Safer Alternative Cleaners!

Many cleaners we buy contain chemicals that can be harmful. You can make your own cleaners that are safer – and often cheaper!

General Household Cleaner

Mix the following:

2 cups water

2 cups of vinegar

Note: if your house might have lead dust, always add a bit of soap to the cleaner (enough to make bubbles). Unscented soap is safest. *Water, vinegar, or baking soda alone may **not** remove lead dust.* Some soaps don't mix well with vinegar – if yours doesn't, try using less vinegar.

Spray or apply with a wet cloth. Rinse with water.

Scouring Paste

Mix the following:

Salt or baking soda

Enough water to make a paste

For very dirty surfaces that need scouring, apply a paste of salt or baking soda and scrub with a green scouring pad. Rinse with water.

Mopping Floors

Mix the following in first mop bucket; fill second bucket with water:

1 gallon water

1 cup vinegar;

(Optional: for lead-safe cleaning add 2 Tbsp. liquid soap/detergent, such as castile soap)

Dip mop in first bucket, ring out, mop floor. Rinse mop in second bucket, ring out. Repeat. When whole floor has been mopped, rinse with clean water, taking care not to get it too wet. Air dry or dry with rags to reduce risk of slipping on the wet floor.

Drain Cleaner

Pour:

1 Tbsp. baking soda down the drain, followed by

2 Tbsp. vinegar

Pour baking soda, then vinegar down drain. Cover drain and let sit for 15 minutes. Follow with 2 cups boiling water. **If needed**, Use a plumber's "snake" or plunger. BE VERY CAREFUL with boiling water and keep children away to avoid accidental burns.

