

Tested & Rated

Non-Toxic Cleaners Recipe Book



All recipes tested
and evaluated by the
Greendale High School
Chemistry Service Club

All Purpose Cleaner

INGREDIENTS

- 1 teaspoon Liquid Soap
- 1 teaspoon Borax
- 2 tablespoons Vinegar
- 1 quart Water

DIRECTIONS

Mix the liquid soap, borax and vinegar (or bottled lemon juice) in 1 quart of water. Wipe or spray area to be cleaned, then dry with a cloth.

The Face Off: Non-Toxic All Purpose Cleaner vs 409tm

RATINGS

1 (poor) - 5 (excellent)

Non-toxic = 4
Commercial = 4

While both products worked the same on larger spills, the non-toxic worked best on lighter, less "caked-on" spills.

Information provided by Laura Briskie

Silver Cleaner

INGREDIENTS

- Baking Soda
- Water

DIRECTIONS



Apply small amounts of baking soda to a soft, damp sponge and rub gently until surface is clean.

The Face Off: Non-Toxic vs. Royal Sterling Silver Creamtm

RATINGS

1 (poor) - 5 (excellent)

Non-Toxic = 4
Commercial = 4

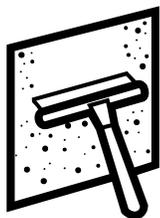
Both products work the same, but the commercial product can be irritating to the eyes and skin.

Information provided by Amanda Analla, Ane Garikoetxea and Mike Long

INGREDIENTS

- 2 tablespoons Vinegar or Lemon Juice
- 1 pint Water

DIRECTIONS



Combine the vinegar or lemon juice with the water in a spray bottle. Spray on windows. For indoor, simply use a lint-free rag and wipe windows clean. For outdoor windows, use a sponge and warm water with a few drops of dishwashing liquid; rinse and squeegee dry.

The Face Off: Non-Toxic vs Windex Original™

RATINGS

1 (poor) - 5 (excellent)

Non-toxic = 5
Commercial = 5

They both leave windows looking the same, but the non-toxic avoids the use of glycol ethers, alcohol, ammonia and propellant aerosol cans.

Information provided by Sasa Jefic and Cassie Murdaugh

INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup Borax
- 2 cups Cornmeal (or baking soda)

DIRECTIONS

Mix cornmeal with Borax and apply to carpet. Let stand for one hour and then vacuum up dry ingredients

The Face Off: Non-Toxic vs LA's Totally Awesome Carpet Cleaner

RATINGS

1 (poor) - 5 (excellent)

Non-toxic = 4
Commercial = 3

The cornmeal absorbed the stain better than the commercial cleaner.

Information provided by Brandon Glisch

Window Cleaner

Furniture Polish (not for varnished wood)

INGREDIENTS

- Vegetable Oil
- Bottled Lemon Juice (optional)

DIRECTIONS



Apply a small amount of oil to a cloth and rub into wood (when used on unvarnished woods the oil will be absorbed). Wait an hour and rub off surface to remove excess oil.

The Face Off: Non-Toxic vs Old English™

RATINGS

1 (poor) - 5 (excellent)

Non-toxic = 3
Commercial = 3

The non-toxic had the same shine as the toxic, but the toxic left a slippery surface after drying. The non-toxic avoids the use of petroleum distillates.

Information provided by Lindsay Mittag

INGREDIENTS

- 1/2 cup Borax
- 1/4 cup Vinegar
- 2 gallons Hot Water

DIRECTIONS

Mix the borax and vinegar in hot water. Mix evenly, then apply to surfaces with a sponge. Finish by wiping areas clean with a dry rag.

The Face Off: Non-Toxic vs. Comet All-Purpose Bathroom Cleaner™

RATINGS

1 (poor) - 5 (excellent)

Non-Toxic = 4
Commercial = 4

Both products left residue which took additional clean-up.

Information provided by Sarah Bly, Tommy Driscoll, Faryn Dacquislo and Pat Noggle

Carpet Cleaner

Bathroom Cleaner

INGREDIENTS

- Baking Soda
- Dishwashing Liquid
- Vinegar

DIRECTIONS

Sprinkle baking soda inside the toilet bowl. Add a couple drops of dish soap, then scrub with a toilet bowl brush and clean other surfaces with a rag and baking soda. Use a small amount of vinegar to remove any stains.

The Face Off: Non-Toxic vs Chlorox Toilet Bowl Cleaner with Teflon™

RATINGS

1 (poor) - 5 (excellent)

Non-toxic = 5
Commercial = 3

"The non-toxic kicked butt!" The non-toxic leaves more shine, less smell and cleaned off all the stains. It also avoids the use of chlorine bleach, hydrochloric acid, sulfuric acid and oxalic acid.

Information provided by Lindsay Mittag, Laura Briskie, Tommy Driscoll, Sarah Bly and Pat Noggle



Toilet Bowl Cleaner

Linoleum Cleaner

INGREDIENTS

- 1/2 cup Vinegar
- 1 gallon of Warm Water

DIRECTIONS

Mix the vinegar with the warm water and use a mop to clean up the floor. As the vinegar dries the mess will dissipate.

The Face Off: Non-Toxic Linoleum Cleaner vs Comet™

RATINGS

1 (poor) - 5 (excellent)

Non-toxic = 4
Commercial = 4

While both products worked about the same, the use of non-toxic eliminates the use of phosphates, ammonia, glycol ethers and detergents.

Information provided by Kristen Lueck

Linoleum Polish

INGREDIENTS

- Skim Milk

DIRECTIONS

Apply small amount of milk to floor. Use a clean mop to spread the milk. Allow time to air dry.

The Face Off: Non-Toxic vs. Mop & Glo™

RATINGS

1 (poor) - 5 (excellent)

Non-Toxic = 5
Commercial = 3

The skim milk worked better by looking shinier and not smelling. The use of the non-toxic does not create a high gloss finish, so it leaves the floor less slippery. The non-toxic avoids the use of petroleum distillates.



Information provided by Cassie Murdaugh and Sasa Jelic

INGREDIENTS

- Vinegar or Lemon Juice
- Water
- Salt

DIRECTIONS



Mix equal amounts of salt and vinegar. Rub onto the copper surface with a sponge or cloth until clean. Rinse in hot, soapy water and dry thoroughly.

The Face Off: Non-Toxic vs Wright's Copper Cleaner™

RATINGS

1 (poor) - 5 (excellent)

Non-toxic = 5
Commercial = 4

The Wright's cleaner left a very bad odor, which was hard to eliminate. Non-toxic avoids the use of distillates and ammonia.

Information provided by Kristen Lueck and Chris Dyhr

INGREDIENTS

- Milk

DIRECTIONS

Saturate the stain with the milk, then rub until the stain disappears. Follow by laundering the article as the directions state.

The Face Off: Non-Toxic vs Tech Stain Remover™

RATINGS

1 (poor) - 5 (excellent)

Non-toxic = 5
Commercial = 2

"Tech" required too much rubbing to take out the stain. The milk was much easier to use and required less work for the cleaning.

Information provided by Kristen Lueck and Chris Dyhr

Copper Cleaner

Drain Cleaner

INGREDIENTS

- 1/2 cup Baking Soda
- 1/2 cup Vinegar
- Boiling Water

DIRECTIONS

Pour the baking soda down the drain and then add the vinegar to the drain. Cover and let fizz for five minutes. Then pour a full teakettle of boiling water down the drain. Repeat if necessary. Use a plunger or mechanical snake if needed. To prevent further problems use a strainer or screen.

The Face Off: Non-Toxic vs So-Drox Liquid Drain Cleaner™

RATINGS

1 (poor) - 5 (excellent)

Non-toxic = 5
Commercial = 5

While both worked well, the commercial product can cause burns and if swallowed may be fatal. The commercial product can also irritate eyes, skin, nose, throat and respiratory tract.

Information provided by Ane Garikoetxea



Stain Remover for Ballpoint Ink