

PRODUCT COMPARISON SHEET





If you're new to making your own DIY non-toxic cleaning supplies, you may be surprised to learn that you probably have everything you need already in your cupboards!

One of the biggest hurdles to making the switch can be knowing which products are right for which job. Whether you're need a general cleaning spray or you're trying to cut through serious grime, it's possible to replace most consumer cleaning products with common household ingredients - reducing under-sink clutter AND saving you money!

This comparison sheet is a tool to help you compare non-toxic alternatives for household cleaning; Use it as a quick reference to easily compare these versatile ingredients with common cleaning obstacles.

MAIN FEATURES

	 Baking Soda	 Vinegar	 Hydrogen Peroxide	 Salt	 Lemon	 Olive Oil	 Castile Soap
Whitens clothing	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗
Lifts Dirt	✓*	✓*	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓
Combats mould/mildew	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Dissolves grease and baked-on residue	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
Breaks up mineral deposits/soap scum	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗
Disinfects (antibacterial)	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
Removes odours	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Gentle scrubbing action	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗
Safe for septic systems	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Did you know? In science, the pH scale is used to measure how acidic something is, on a scale of 1-14, where 1 is the most acidic, and 14 is the least acidic. (Pure water has a neutral pH of 7.) *Acids* like lemon (pH 2), vinegar (pH 3) and even hydrogen peroxide (pH around 6) are useful for breaking down mineral stains and deposits left from hard water. Other ingredients which are not very acidic are known as *bases*, and these are great at dissolving organic compounds like dirt and grease. Baking soda (pH 9) and soap (pH 8) are examples of gentle bases you'll find in your home.

***When combined**, the acid in the vinegar breaks down baking soda, which releases carbon dioxide gas. (You're likely familiar with this from making homemade science fair volcanoes!) The rapid release of bubbles is what helps lift dirt out of the surfaces you're cleaning.