

Safe Alternatives to Hazardous Chemicals



Try these nontoxic or less toxic alternatives to hazardous household chemicals. A little more “elbow grease” may be needed with some of these products, but the benefits will make it worth it.

- Improved indoor air quality
- Decreased exposure to chemicals
- Fewer waste disposal concerns
- Convenience of having materials on hand
- Lower costs

For this:	Try This:
Air Freshener	Simmer cinnamon and cloves
Ants	Red chili powder at point of entry
Bleach	Borax
Car Battery Corrosion	Baking soda and water
Cleaners-general household	Mix 1/2 cup ammonia, 1/3 cup vinegar, 1/4 cup baking soda in 1 gallon warm water
Decal Remover	Soak in white vinegar
Drain Cleaner	Plunger followed by 1/2 cup baking soda, 1/2 cup vinegar and 2 quarts boiling water
Fertilizer	Compost and vermicompost
Flea & Tick Repellent	Scatter pine needles, fennel, rye or rosemary on pet's bed.
Flies (insects)	Well watered pot of basil
Floor Cleaner	1 cup vinegar and 2 gallons water
Furniture Polish	1 tablespoon lemon oil in 1 pint of mineral oil
Hand cleaner for paint/grease	Baby Oil
Ink Spot remover	Cold water and 1 tablespoon cream of tartar and 1 tablespoon lemon juice

Safe Alternatives to Hazardous Chemicals (continued)



For this:	Try This:
Insects of plants	Soapy water on leaves, then rinse
Mildew Remover	1/2 cup vinegar, 1/2 cup Borax, and 2 cups water
Moth repellent	Cedar chips or dried lavender enclosed in cotton sachets
Oil stain remover (clothing)	White chalk rubbed into stain before laundering
Oven cleaner	2 tablespoons liquid soap, 2 teaspoons borax and warm water
Paint brush softener	Hot vinegar
Pet odor remover	Cider vinegar
Porcelain cleaner	Make paste from baking soda and water; let set, rub clean and rinse.
Refrigerator deodorizer	Open box of baking soda
Roach repellent	Chopped bay leaves and cucumber skins
Rug/carpet cleaner	Club soda
Scouring Powder	Baking soda
Slug and snail repellent	Onion and marigold plants
Tub and tile cleaner	1/4 cup baking soda and 1/2 cup white vinegar and warm water
Window Cleaner	1/2 cup vinegar in 1 gallon warm water