

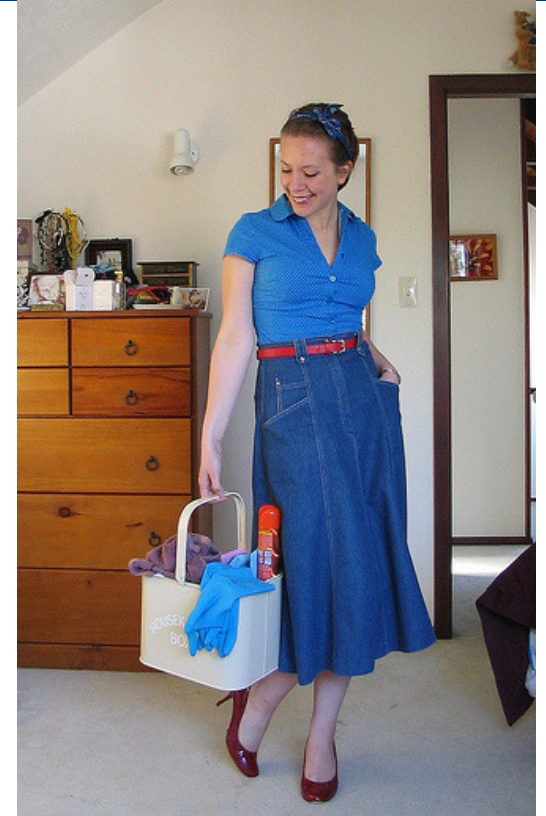
Mildew and Mould

Banish black spots with one part vinegar or lemon juice to one part baking powder. Apply and leave for one or two hours. Rinse off. It may need to be reapplied or left longer, depending on how severe your mould or mildew is.



Energy Factsheet 8

Know about... Credit Crunch Cleaning Tips



For more information and advice call the
Energy Saving Trust Advice Centre on
0800 512 012



Straightforward
Energy Advice

Vinegar

Vinegar naturally cleans like an all-purpose cleaner. Mix a solution of 1 part water to 1 part vinegar in a new store bought spray bottle and you have a solution that will clean most areas of your home. Vinegar is a great natural cleaning product as well as a disinfectant and deodorizer. Always test on an inconspicuous area. It is safe to use on most surfaces and has the added bonus of being incredibly cheap. Improperly diluted vinegar is acidic and can eat away at tile grout. Never use vinegar on marble surfaces. Don't worry about your home smelling like vinegar. The smell disappears when it dries.



Olive Oil

A great alternative furniture polish. Don't worry about using the extra-virgin type, the most basic will do.



Air Freshener

Baking soda eliminates odours. Mix eight tbsp with three drops of your favourite essential oil. Place in a decorative bowl or vase.

Soda in the bottom of ashtrays absorbs smoke smells. It's also like sand for stubbing out cigarettes.

Dab some essential oil on a light bulb. When on, the heat will diffuse the fragrance.

Toilet

Keep loos clean and fresh - put eight tbsp of soda in the bowl. Leave overnight. Sprinkle soda onto a damp cloth to clean toilet seat and cistern, then wipe with a wet cloth.



Drain Cleaner

Put down one part soda, followed by four parts hot vinegar. Leave overnight if possible.

Lemon Juice

Microwaves and Ovens

Clean with a cloth dampened in equal parts of vinegar and water. To remove microwave odours, place some lemon slices in a bowl of water. Put on high for a few minutes.



Lemon juice is another natural substance that can be used to clean your home. Lemon juice can be used to dissolve soap scum and hard water deposits. Lemon is a great substance to clean and shine brass and copper. Lemon juice can be mixed with vinegar and/or baking soda to make cleaning pastes. Cut a lemon in half and sprinkle baking soda on the cut section. Use the lemon to scrub dishes, surfaces, and stains. Mix 1 cup olive oil with $\frac{1}{2}$ cup lemon juice and you have a furniture polish for your hardwood furniture.



Baths, Shower Doors, Tiles and Grout

Tackle body oils and soap scum with two parts soda to one part vinegar or lemon juice. The thick paste should be applied with a damp cloth. Leave for 10 minutes then rub with a brush or sponge. As you rinse it off, drains will be kept fresh too. Use this mix on shower doors, sinks, tiles and grout. If cleaning grout, rub with a toothbrush.



Baking Soda

Baking soda can be used to scrub surfaces in much the same way as commercial abrasive cleansers. Baking soda is great as a deodorizer. Place a box in the refrigerator and freezer to absorb odours. Put it anywhere you need deodorising action.

What To Clean :-

Glass

Wash windows with two to three tbsps of vinegar to three litres of warm water. Dry with crumpled newspaper for sparkling results.

Scummy vases? Put in one tbsp of vinegar and fill with warm water. Leave to soak for 10 minutes. Rub with a soft cloth then rinse.



Wood

Mix one part olive oil with one part lemon juice. Rub on furniture or apply with a spray bottle, then polish with a dry cloth. Use this mix to make wood gleam.



Floors

Mop vinyl, laminate or ceramic tiled floors with eight tbsp of vinegar diluted in three litres of hot water. For pet odours and stains in carpets, mix equal parts of vinegar and water. Apply to affected areas. Blot with kitchen roll (recycled is preferable), until moisture is absorbed. You may need to repeat the process.



Stainless Steel

Clean and shine any stainless steel surface with a paste of soda and water. Apply liberally with a damp cloth. Leave for about five minutes, then wipe.

