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### **Window Cleaner**

- Vinegar (1/2c.): Mix vinegar and 1 gallon of warm water.
- Newspaper: When cleaning windows, use newspaper instead of paper towels for a nice shine.

## ***The Kitchen***

### **Oven Cleaner**

- Vinegar: Clean grease with rag and vinegar.
- Salt and #000 steel wool: Sprinkle salt on spills immediately, let sit for a few minutes and then scrape with steel wool.

### **Garbage Disposal Smells**

- Lemon or Orange Rinds: Grind a half lemon or orange rinds in the disposal to remove any unpleasant odor.

### **Coffee or Teas Stains in Plastic Cups, Dishes, and Containers**

- Baking Soda: Scour the stains out.

### **Refrigerator- Smells and Cleaning**

- Vanilla: Poured a little on a piece of cotton and place in the refrigerator to eliminate odors.
- Baking Soda (3 T): Wash inside and out with a mixture of 3T of baking soda in a quart of warm water.
- Vinegar: To prevent mildew from forming, wipe with vinegar. The acid effectively kills mildew fungus.

### **Tea Kettle Stains**

- Vinegar: To remove lime deposits, fill with equal parts of vinegar and water. Bring to a boil and let stand overnight.

## ***Bathroom***

### **Shower Doors**

- White Vinegar & Baking Soda: Spray w/white vinegar, then scour with a sponge sprinkled with baking soda

### **Septic Tank Treatment**

- Brown Sugar (2 c.) & Yeast (1T): Stir into 5 c. warm water until dissolved. Pour into toilet & flush, then wait for 1/2 hour before flushing again.

### **Clothes**

#### **Fabric Softener**

- Baking Soda (2c.), Vinegar (2c.), Water (4c.): Add ¼cup of mixture to final rinse.

#### **Smelly Clothes**

- Baking Soda (2T): If clothes were forgotten in the washer, place them in the dryer with baking soda.
- Baking Soda (1/3c.): Add baking soda to smelly loads of laundry.

#### **Detergent Residue**

- Vinegar (1c.): Add to the final rinse to remove detergent residue.

### **Cleaners**

#### **All Purpose Cleaner** (per one gallon water)

- Liquid Soap (3t.)
- Vinegar (¼c.)
- Lemon Juice (¼c.)
- Borax (¼c.)

#### **Drain Cleaner Recipes**

- Salt (1c.) & Baking Soda (1c.): Pour into the drain followed by a kettle of boiling water.
- Vinegar (1/2c.): Plunger followed by vinegar & two quarts boiling water
- Vinegar (1/2c.) & Baking Soda (1/4c.): Pour soda and then vinegar down drain. Close drain until bubbling stops. Pour boiling water. If the clog remains, use a plunger or snake. If all else fails, take the elbow of the pipe.
- Baking Soda (1c.), Salt (1c.), Vinegar (1/2c.): Pour down drain, wait 15 minutes, then flush with boiling water.

#### **Disinfectant:**

- Borax (1/4c.): Mix with 1/2 gallon water (Borax replaces bleach).

#### **Wax Spills on Carpet**

- Hot Iron and Brown Bag: For spilled wax on carpet, use a brown paper bag as a blotter and run a hot iron over it. The paper bag will absorb the wax.

#### **Floors- Scuff Marks**

- Mineral Spirits: Rub on vinyl/ wax floors.

#### **Mildew and Lime Deposit Removers**

- White Vinegar (½c.) & Borax (1/2c.): Dissolve borax in warm water, add vinegar. Make a fresh batch for each use.

## ***Furniture***

### **Homemade furniture polish**

- Vinegar and Olive or Lemon Oil: 1 part vinegar and three parts olive oil or lemon oil
- Lemon Oil (1T) and Mineral Oil (1 pint): Just mix and use.

### **Glass Scratch Fixer**

- Toothpaste: Remove small scratches from glass table tops.

### **Formica Tops**

- Club Soda: Polish them to a sparkle.

### **Brass/ Copper Cleaner**

- Vinegar & Lemon Juice & Salt: Mix equal parts of vinegar & lemon juice. Add enough salt to make a paste. Apply with a soft cloth. Rinse and dry. Rub with olive oil to maintain.

### **Silver Polish**

- Salt (1tsp.), Aluminum Foil & Baking Soda (1tsp.): Put one sheet of foil in the bottom of a pan. Add 2-3 inches of water, the baking soda and the salt. Bring to a boil. Add silver pieces making sure the water covers the silver. Boil 2-3 minutes. Remove from pan. Rinse and dry. For larger items, run hot water into the kitchen sink. Add foil and salt. Let items sit for 2-3 minutes, then rinse and dry.

## ***Plants***

### **Plants in a Slump**

- Castor Oil: A tablespoon of castor oil chased by water brings sick plants out of their slump.

### **Weeds**

- Salt or Vinegar: Sprinkle on unwanted weeds.

### **Plant Food**

- Coffee: Don't throw away your leftover coffee or grounds in the morning. Put around your geraniums and other flowers to promote blooming.
- Rusty Nails: Your African violets will bloom longer, prettier and more abundantly if you stick a few rusty nails in the soil alongside them.

## ***Insects and Pests***

### **Ants**

- Chalk: Draw a line of chalk where you don't want them to cross.
- Red Chili Powder: Sprinkle at point of entry

### **Cockroaches and Ants**

- Powdered Sugar and Borax: Combine in equal parts and sprinkle in places where they crawl.

### **Mice**

- Mint Leaves: Chop them up and leave them wherever you see mice.