

ALTERNATIVES TO TOXIC HOUSEHOLD SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE	ALTERNATIVES
All Purpose Cleaner	2 tsp. Borax, 1 tsp. soap, and 1 qt. water stored in spray bottle.
Ant killer	Sprinkle chili powder at point of entry
Bleach	Borax. Baking soda and water. Non-chlorine bleach such as Snowy.
Carpet Stain Cleaner	Vinegar and water.
Disinfectant	1/2 cup Borax in 1 gallon water.
Drain Cleaner	Plunger. Metal snake. 1/4 cup baking soda and 1/4 cup vinegar, after 15 minutes flush with 1 gal. boiling water.
Floor Polish	Choose polishes without petroleum distillates
Furniture Polish	Soft damp cloth. Lemon oil polish. Mix 1 part lemon juice and 2 parts olive or vegetable oil. Melt 1 T. Carnbauba wax into 2 cups mineral oil. Dissolve 1 tsp. lemon oil into 1 pt. mineral oil.
Glass cleaner	Rub newspapers on glass. 2 T. vinegar in 1 qt. warm water in spray bottle.
Houseplant insecticide	Old dishwater or bar soap and water; spray on leaves and rinse.
Mothballs	Cedar chips. Newspapers.
Oven Cleaner	Straight vinegar. Pour extra vinegar on burned -on area, close door, and let soak for 2 hours. Wash with warm water.

Roach killer

Sprinkle boric acid, chopped bay leaves and cucumber skins, Mix half brown sugar and half boric acid in a dish, set out.

Rug & upholstery cleaner

Dry cornstarch sprinkled on, then vacuumed.

Scouring powder

Baking soda, dampen, let sit. "No chlorine" cleanser such as Bon Ami.

Shoe polish

Walnut or other nut oil, olive oil.

Silver polish

Soak silver in 1 qt. water with 1 tsp. baking soda, 1 tsp. salt and a small piece of aluminum foil.

Tub, tile and toilet bowl cleaner

Baking soda. Borax. Liquid soap such as Murphy's.