

Cleaners and Their Uses

(For CEOS Lesson, Homemade Cleaning Products)

<i>Type</i>	<i>What It Does</i>	<i>Conventional</i>	<i>Alternatives</i>
Base/Alkali	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good for removing dirt, fat and grease. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All-purpose cleaner • Oven cleaner 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baking Soda (mild) • Borax (moderate) • Washing soap (strong)
Acid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breaks things down like rust, mineral deposits and hard water stains. • Good for glass, windows, brass, copper, tiles and mold. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Toilet bowl cleaner • Tub and tile cleaner • Mold solutions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vinegar • Lemon juice
Detergents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loosens dirt. Lifts it up and away. Usually used on laundry or dishes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laundry detergent • Dishwashing liquid • Cleansers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Washing soda/borax • Soap nuts/granules • Vegetable/coconut oils
Abrasives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aka “cleansers.” • Wears off dirt by rubbing. Found in powders and scouring pads. Can scratch surfaces. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scouring powders • Steel wool 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baking soda or salt • Borax/washing soda • Mesh pads
Bleach and sanitizers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whitens and removes stains. Disinfects or reduces the number of bacteria. Sanitizes. Also helps areas smell better. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chlorine bleach 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunlight/citrus • Hydrogen peroxide • Borax or vinegar • Tea tree or lavender oil
Air Fresheners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helps the air smell better. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plug-ins • Sprays 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open window • Essential oils • Lemon or lime juice • Simmer spices on stove • Baking soda

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