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WHAT TO USE TO CLEAN YOUR HOUSE

Supermarket shelves are filled with many products for cleaning your home. TV ads tell you that "Product X" is a miracle cleaner or "Product Y" does the job like no other. But you still want to know which is best for the job.

You will need:

Products

Soap or detergent

Scouring powder

Baking soda

Vinegar

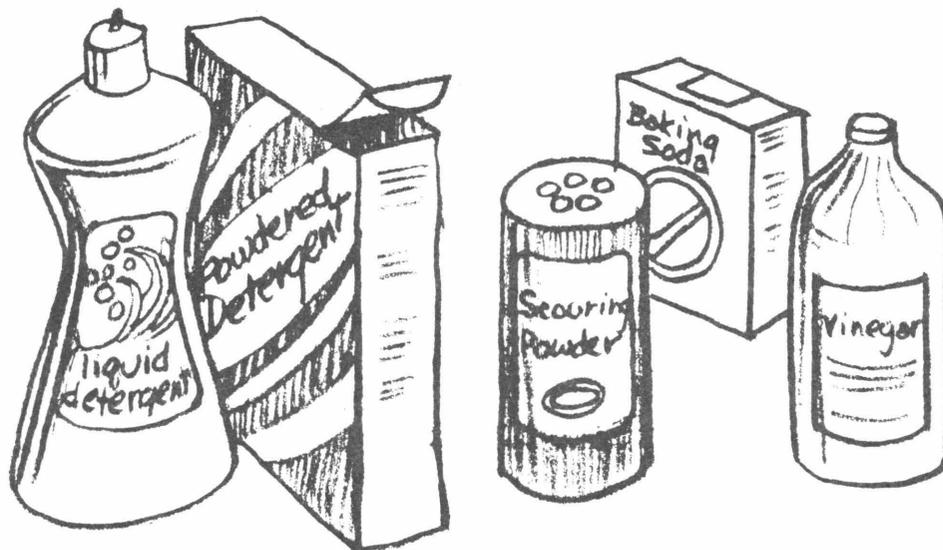
Kinds of Jobs You Can Do

Wash dishes.
Wash clothes.
General household cleaning.

Remove stains. Be careful—can scratch shiny finish of sinks, bathtubs, and kitchen appliances. Use only when needed.

Clean glass, wall tile, and porcelain enamel.

Remove hard-water spots.
Remove rust stains from sinks.



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OTHER THINGS TO MAKE CLEANING EASIER

Products

Kinds of Jobs You Can Do

Bleach

Help remove stains, but can dull shiny porcelain finish of sinks and bathtubs.

Ammonia

Clean ovens,
Loosen wax,
Wash windows and mirrors.

Steel wool or soap pads

Remove "stuck on" foods from pans and oven racks. Don't use on a highly polished metal or on plastic.

Plastic pads

Clean non-stick finish on pans.
Remove "stuck on" foods from pans.



CAUTION

Read all labels carefully before using any chemical. An increasing number of cleaners contain a variety of chemicals, many of which are dangerous if improperly used.

Keep all cleaners tightly covered in the original containers, out of reach of children. Never mix chemicals not specifically recommended for use together. Some cleaners are flammable.

OTHER CLEANERS THAT YOU MAY WANT

Products

Kinds of Jobs You Can Do

Wax

- Floor (liquid or paste)
- White cream wax (for appliances)

Keep floors shiny and easier to clean.
Brighten kitchen appliances.

Special products

- Toilet bowl cleaner
- Oven cleaner
- Window cleaner

Buy these if you need them. Follow directions on the label—they can be harmful. Use and store them with care.



Tools

What To Look for When Buying Them

Broom

A fiber broom will be more expensive but will last longer.
Hang the broom or rest it on the handle end for longer life.

Dustpan

Dustpans with long handles are best. You won't have to bend over to pick up the dirt.

Dry mop—dust mop

The best mop has a removable mop head so it can be washed easily.

Carpet sweeper

Can be used on rugs and for light cleaning.

Vacuum cleaner
Lightweight
Cannister or tank

For light cleaning. Use on wood floors or carpets and rugs. Has no attachments.
Comes with a variety of attachments; is a good all-purpose cleaner.

Upright

Especially good on rugs and carpets. Can buy attachments to make this an all-around cleaner.

Sponge mop or string mop

Choose one that has mop head that can be removed from handle for washing. Check handle length. Be sure it's long enough.

Pails

It's nice to have two pails—one for washing and one for rinsing. Check size and shape. Sponge mop should fit into both pails.

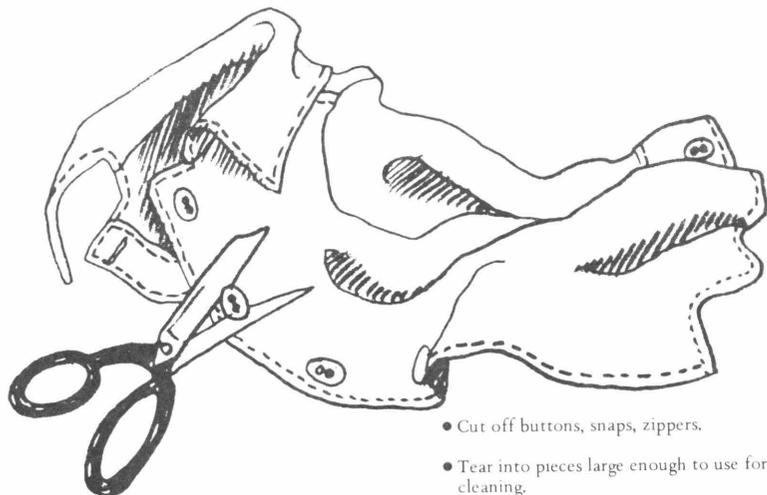
Sponges or cleaning cloth

Worn-out clothing makes soft cleaning cloths. You'll need a variety. Use coarse cloths and towels for heavy cleaning, and smoother ones for polishing jobs.

Stepladder or step stool

You can use a sturdy chair for climbing, but a stepladder is much safer. Choose a ladder that is high enough to reach any surface that will need cleaning.

WORN-OUT CLOTHES MAKE SOFT CLEANING RAGS



- Cut off buttons, snaps, zippers.
- Tear into pieces large enough to use for cleaning.

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