



Make Your Own Homemade Boat Cleaners



Compliments of Sailors for the Sea.org



With the following seven products that you may already have in your kitchen cabinets, you can clean most of your boat and boating accessories in an Eco-Smart and Cost-Effective way



- **Vinegar** – acidic, strong cleaning agent that can dissolve dirt, debris and grime, kill or reduce certain types of pathogens (usually ones that cause common foodborne diseases), but is not a disinfectant.
- **Lemon Juice** – acidic, strong cleaning agent that can dissolve dirt, debris and grime, antibacterial, but is not a disinfectant, citrus smell.
 - **Baking Soda** – mildly alkaline, slightly abrasive, strong cleaning agent that can help dissolve dirt and grease (be careful using around certain metals), and neutralize odors.
 - **Cream of Tartar** – mildly acidic, similar to baking soda, but is slightly less abrasive.
- **Borax** – alkaline, strong cleaning agent that can get rid of stains, mold and mildew, and neutralize odors.
 - **Salt** – effective gentle scouring agent, boost cleaning and deodorizing action of other ingredients.
 - **Hydrogen Peroxide** – a natural disinfectant that is antibacterial and antiviral.

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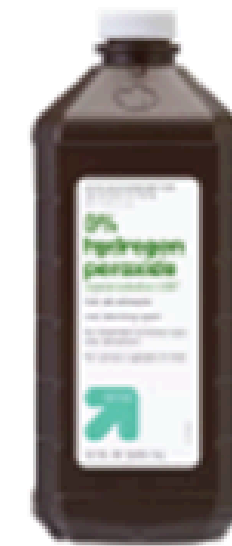
Vinegar



Baking Soda



Borax



Hydrogen Peroxide



Lemon Juice



Cream of Tartar



Salt



Fiberglass Stain Remover



Baking Soda - Water - Bowl - Spoon - Scrub Brush or Cloth

In a bowl, add a couple of tablespoons of baking soda. Slowly add a small amount of water and mix until you make a thick paste. Using a cloth, rub the paste on fiberglass to remove stains. Rinse area with water.





Aluminum Cleaner



Cream of Tarter - Water - Small Bucket - Tablespoon - Cloth

In a small bucket, add two tablespoons of cream of tartar to one quart of hot water, and mix. Use a cloth dipped in the mixture to clean aluminum surfaces. Rinse area with water. Cream of tartar is used in this homemade cleaner instead of baking soda because if baking soda, an acidic substance, is left on the aluminum too long, it can cause the metal to oxidize.





Stainless Cleaner



Baking Soda - Water - White Vinegar - Bowl - Spoon - Cloth

In a bowl, add a couple of tablespoons of baking soda. Slowly add a small amount of water and mix until you make a thick paste. Using a cloth, rub the paste on the stainless-steel surface. Rinse area with water. To get rid of water spots on the stainless steel, wipe area with a new cloth that has been dipped in white vinegar.



Sail Cleaner



Borax - Water - Bucket - Sponge - Scrub Brush

To avoid weakening your sails, it's essential to be cautious with the cleaning products you use.

Instead of relying on harsh chemicals, opt for soaking the sails for a longer period. For general cleaning, mix one to two cups of borax with a gallon of hot water. Rinse the sail with water, then generously apply the borax solution using a sponge. For stains, gently scrub with a soft brush. Allow the solution to soak on the sail for two hours. After soaking, thoroughly rinse the sail with water.

To dry, either hoist the sail or drape it in a sunny, dry location until fully dry.





Life Jacket Cleaner



White Vinegar - Water - Hydrogen Peroxide - Bucket - Scrub Brush

In a bucket, mix one cup of white vinegar with a gallon of water. Soak the lifejacket in the solution for 30 minutes, using a soft scrub brush to remove any stains as needed. Rinse the lifejacket thoroughly with water. To sanitize, prepare a new solution with one cup of hydrogen peroxide in a gallon of water. Soak the lifejacket in this mixture for 30 minutes. Rinse the lifejacket thoroughly with water again, then let it dry completely outdoors.



Mildew Remover



Lemon Juice - Salt - Bowl - Spoon - Scrub Brush or Wash Cloth

For stubborn mildew stains on canvas or other cloth surfaces, mix together one part lemon juice and one part salt in a bowl. Using a scrub brush or cloth, apply the mixture to the mildew stain and scrub to remove. Rinse thoroughly with water.

Let the cloth items dry fully outside in the sun.

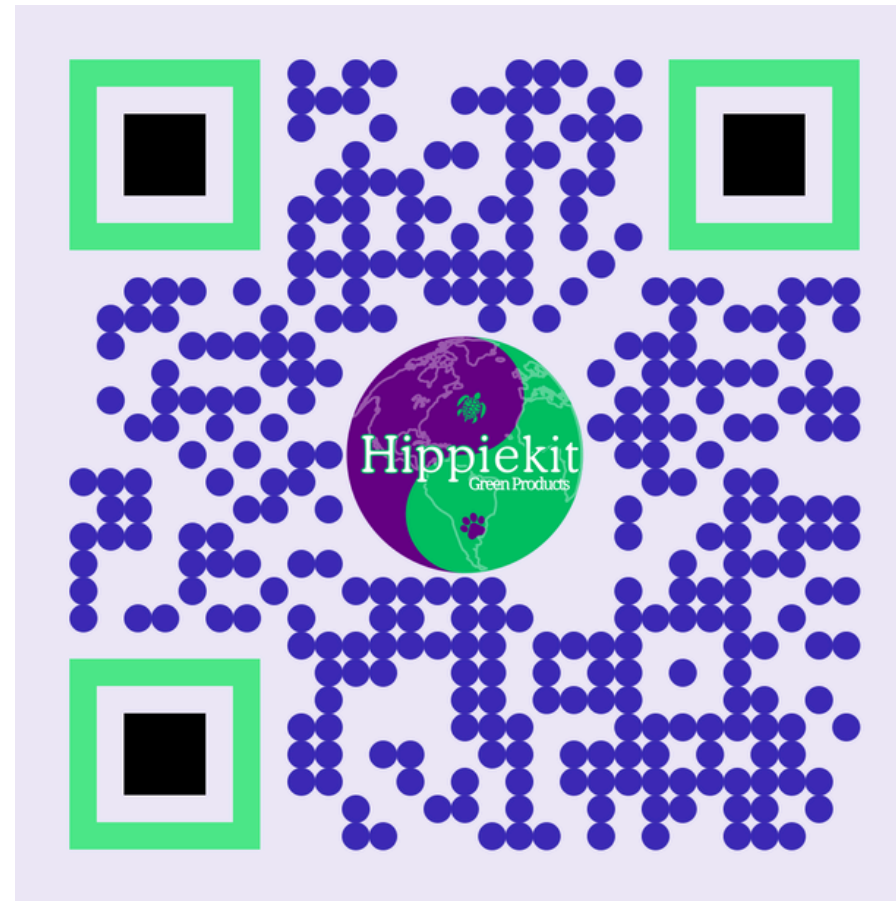
Think ahead when planning your cleaning routine!



It's important to keep toxic, wash liquids away from the water (See Graywater). Also, use only plant-based towels, like cotton and old, cotton clothes to clean, rather than disposable items like paper towels. Toxic microfibers or materials like rayon, nylon and polyester contain harmful chemicals and microplastics.



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