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# CLEANING PRODUCTS

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**CAN BE TOXIC.**

The smells we associate with “clean” are often the smells of dangerous chemicals. Hundreds of kids in New York City accidentally drink cleaning products every year, according to the city’s Poison Control Center. Poison from cleaning products can also enter the body through the skin. In fact, cleaning products are some of the most toxic materials in our homes.



# Green Your Clean

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1. Purchase nontoxic or “green” cleaning products. These are increasingly available at a reasonable cost.
2. Avoid products labeled “DANGER!” or “POISON!” If you do use these products, store them out of reach of children, ventilate well, and rinse cleaned surfaces with water.
3. Try do-it-yourself cleaning products:
  - All-purpose cleaner: Combine 1 part water to 1 part vinegar. Put in an empty spray bottle. Vinegar leaves no scent once it’s dry. For a scent add rosemary oil or your favorite essential oil.
  - Grease remover: Sprinkle some baking soda on a wet sponge or towel and wipe off the grease.
  - Drain opener: Pour 1/2 cup baking soda and 1/2 cup salt (or 1/2 cup vinegar) down the drain, followed by 6 cups of boiling water.