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Natural Citrus Cleaners

Remember when natural ingredients like baking soda and vinegar were commonly used to clean ovens, bathtubs and windows. Many of today's commercial cleaning products contain harsh chemicals that are unhealthy to our environment and us. This back to basics class uses the natural, biodegradable, citrus derived D-Limonene together with other natural ingredients and Essential Oils to create a variety of eco-friendly household cleaning products. Make an All-Purpose Spray Cleaner, Kitchen & Bath Scouring Paste, Adhesive, Wax & Gum Remover, Carpet Deodorizing Powder and Moisturizing Citrus Hand Cleaner with pumice great for gardeners, mechanics and others who work with their hands.

D-Limonene is a natural, safe citrus derived solvent used in personal care hand cleaners and household and industrial cleaning products.

D-Limonene is the major component of the oil extracted from the citrus rind. When citrus fruits are juiced commercially, the oil is pressed out of the rind. This oil is separated from the juice and distilled to create products like Orange Essential Oil and flavour compounds. The bulk of the distilled oil is left behind and re-distilled in a steam extractor to create d-limonene.

D-Limonene is a well recognized degreaser and solvent. As a straight solvent, it is considered a better solvent than typical mineral spirits without the danger or potential for irritation. Its use is common in industrial hand cleaners, with many automotive and heavy industry workers having used one of the wide variety of "Orange" type hand cleaners to help remove grease and grime. Its use in common household hand cleansers is growing, with many pet products, gardeners soaps, anti-bacterial hand soaps now using d-limonene for its incredible cleansing and grease cutting capabilities.

Some common uses for d-limonene are:

- Pet shampoos
- Hand Cleaners
- General purpose spray cleaner
- Window cleaner
- Floor cleaner
- Carpet spot remover
- Bathroom cleaner
- Graffiti remover
- Adhesive, Gum, Wax remover
- Concrete cleaner
- Wheel cleaner
- Engine Degreaser
- Industrial metal cleaner

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Natural Household Cleansers

Why Natural?

The health benefits associated with replacing traditional chemical based household cleansers with natural cleansers is well documented. The chemicals used today in most households are a toxic nightmare. In fact, 90% of all accidental poisonings occur in the home - with young children being the primary victims. A 5 year study by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency found that the average American home had chemical contamination levels 70 times greater than outdoor air. The list of toxic substances found in household pesticides, oven cleaners, disinfectants, bathroom cleaners and detergents is long and growing.

d-Limonene can replace many of the chemical solvents used in today's cleaning products, and as its consumer awareness grows, more companies will look to replace the inexpensive chemical solvents with natural solvents like d-Limonene.

So, lets look at what other ingredients are used in natural cleansers and household products.

- **Liquid Castile Soap:** A natural, olive oil based concentrated liquid soap. Liquid Castile can be used for dish detergents, household cleansers, hand soap or even a baby wash.
- **Sodium Bicarbonate (Baking Soda):** Deodorizer, Whitener, Freshener, Cleaner in scouring powders and cleansers.
- **Borax:** A mild natural alkali used as a water softener, preservative, aiding in cleansing in cleansers and detergents
- **Vinegar:** A natural solvent, it has been used for hundreds of years to dissolve soap scum and de-grease kitchen areas etc...
- **Essential Oils:** Essential oils are an integral part of any natural cleansing regime. Some, like Pine, Orange, Lemon, are found in commercial home cleaning products. Others, like Rosewood, Tea Tree, and Rosemary were commonly used in the past, and are still prevalent in other cultures as anti-microbial and antibacterial agents. Some commonly used oils are:

-**Citronella:** Antiseptic, bactericidal, -commonly used for its insect repelling properties.

-**Clove Bud Oil:** Antibiotic, antiseptic, -has a sweet-spicy odour.

-**Cedarwood:** Antiseptic and insecticide, -excellent insect and vermin repellent.

-**Eucalyptus Lemon:** Antiseptic, bactericidal, deodorant, fungicidal and insecticide.

-**Lavender:** Anti-microbial, deodorant, insecticide, and parasiticide, -sweet, floral scent.

-**Lemon:** Anti-microbial, antiseptic, bactericidal and insecticidal. - light, fresh, citrus scent.

-**Lime:** Antiseptic and bactericidal, -its fresh, sharp, citrus scent is a popular deodorant.

-**Peppermint:** Anti-microbial, antiseptic, and antiviral. A clean fresh scent.

-**Pine:** Antiseptic, bactericidal and insecticidal. A common antiseptic in today's commercial cleaning products because of its ease of availability. Pine oil is probably the most widely used of the essential oils, commonly used in today's hospital antiseptics, and industrial cleaning applications.

-**Rosemary:** Anti-microbial, antiseptic, and fungicidal. Widely used in commercial spray cleaners because of its anti-microbial properties and its strong, fresh, mint-herbaceous scent with woody-balsamic undertones.

-**Tea Tree Oil:** An unusual oil in that it is effective against all three varieties of infectious organism - bacteria - fungi- viruses. The most potent of the natural anti-bacterial essential oils, it has been used for centuries in Australia.

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All Purpose Spray Cleaner

Per Person/500ml Cleaner Bottle

3 tbsp	D-Limonene
3 tbsp	Polysorbate 20
1.5 Cups plus 2 Tbsp	Water - Warm
3 tbsp	White Vinegar
3 tbsp	Liquid Castile Soap
2 tsp	Borax 10 mole
¼ tsp	Citricidal Grapefruit Seed Extract
10 drops	Essential Oils of Choice.

Directions: Mix in a large measuring cup the D-Limonene & Polysorbate 20. Add other ingredients with gentle agitation. Make sure Borax is dissolved. Pour into a spray bottle. Shake and spray onto appliance surfaces, counter tops, wherever a general cleaning is required.

Kitchen and Bath Scouring Paste

Per Table / Makes 4 – 250 ml Containers

Scouring powders are designed to clean, sanitize and brighten by working out the grime. This product contains d-limonene to cut the soap scum and kitchen grease, and baking soda and borax to help disinfect and deodorize. Natural Liquid Castile Soap is used to give the paste its cleansing and wetting properties. This is also a great Natural Oven Cleaner.

50.0%	Baking Soda	500 grams
30.0%	Borax 10 mole	300 grams
10.0%	Liquid Castille Soap	100 grams
10.0%	D-Limonene	100 grams

Directions: Mix all the ingredients in a bowl and stir well to mix. Essential Oils can be added to increase the disinfecting properties. Package. Apply with damp cloth, sponge, or soft scrub brush. Use as an oven cleaner by mixing with a little water and applying to the inside of your oven. Allow to dry and remove with a wet cloth.

General Purpose Adhesive, Wax, and Gum Remover

Per Table / Makes 4 – 1oz. Bottles

8.0 %	Polysorbate 20	12 grams
8.0 %	d-Limonene	12 grams
73.5 %	Water – Warm	110 grams
10.0 %	Liquid Castille Soap	15 grams
0.5 %	Citricidal Grapefruit Seed Extract	1 gram

Directions: Measure out and mix together the Polysorbate 20 and D-Limonene. Add warm water and stir gently to combine. Add Liquid Castille Soap and Grapefruit seed extract and stir to combine. Package in 1oz bottles for quick response to emergency cleaning situations.

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Carpet Deodorizing Powder

Per Table / Makes 1 – 4 oz. Powder Shakers

¼ Cup Baking Soda
¼ Cup Borax 10 mole
10 drops Lemon Essential Oil
8 drops Peppermint Essential Oil

Directions: Mix together all ingredients into a measuring up and add to powder shaker.

To Use: Sprinkle on Carpet or Pet Bedding. Leave for several hours then Vacuum.

Moisturizing Citrus Hand Cleaner

Per Person / Makes 1 – 4 oz. Jar

This product is designed as a thick, scoop and use product. It contains a very fine abrasive (Pumice) to help the d-limonene dissolve and remove all the grease and grime. Great for Gardeners, Mechanics and others who continually work with their hands, this is a wonderful natural alternative to the commercial “Orange” hand cleaners commonly used by many.

½ Cup Cream Soap Base (less a Tbsp)
2 tsp D-Limonene
1 – 2 tbsp Fine Pumice (depending on desired exfoliation)
¼ tsp Red Clay
1/8 tsp Citricidal Grapefruit Seed Extract

Directions:

Mix all ingredients together into a measuring cup and stir to combine. Spoon into Cosmetic Jar.

Other Products Using d-Limonene

The following is a list of other uses, which you can experiment with at home. Because d-Limonene is an oil it is necessary to utilize an oil in water emulsifier to suspend the d-limonene in solution. Polysorbate 20, a liquid emulsifier, is what is used to suspend essential oils or products like d-Limonene in water. Just mix together equal parts of D-Limonene and Polysorbate 20 and then add to your product.

- d-Limonene is used at 100% concentration for degreasing engine parts, grease traps, removing oil stains from concrete etc...
- A laundry spot remover would contain 10% d-Limonene, 10% Polysorbate, 5% Liquid Castile and the balance being water.
- An engine degreaser would have 15% d-Limonene, 15% Polysorbate, 10 % Amphosol and the balance being water.
- A floor cleaner would contain 5% d-Limonene, 5% Polysorbate 20, 5% liquid Castile and balance being water.
- A Car Wash would contain 5% d-Limonene, 5% Polysorbate 20, 20% Amphosol CG and the balance being water
- Caution should be taken when packaging products with high concentrations of d-Limonene. Ensure that if you are using a plastic bottle it is a firm feeling bottle, manufactured with a high density plastic. Heavy duty HDPE, PET, PVC, or similar are the desired choice.
- We encourage you to have fun experimenting with the use of d-Limonene around your home as an easy, natural solution to many of your current chemical based cleaning products.

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