Homemade All-Purpose Cleaner with Vinegar

One simple spray for everyday kitchen and bathroom cleaning - made in 5 minutes from two pantry staples.

5 minutes	500 ml	1 : 1	1 month
to make	makes one spray bottle	vinegar to water	keeps well, labelled



Ingredients

- 250 ml (1 cup) distilled white vinegar, 5% acidity
- 250 ml (1 cup) water - distilled is best if your tap water is hard
- Optional for scent: 5-10 drops lemon or tea tree essential oil, or a strip of lemon peel

You Will Need

- Clean 500 ml spray bottle
- Measuring jug and a funnel
- Microfibre cloth
- A label and a pen for the bottle

Step-by-Step Method

1. **Start with a clean bottle.** Rinse the spray bottle with warm water so no old cleaner is left inside.
2. **Pour in the vinegar.** Using the funnel, add 250 ml of distilled white vinegar to the bottle.
3. **Add the water.** Top up with 250 ml of water, leaving a small gap at the top so the spray head fits.
4. **Add scent, if using.** Add the essential oil drops or lemon peel, then fit the spray head and shake gently.
5. **Label the bottle.** Write the name, the ingredients and today's date on the label - see the cut-out label on page 2.

How to Use - Tick Each Step

- [ ] Test on a small, hidden patch first and wait 5 minutes
- [ ] Spray the surface lightly until it is just damp, not soaked
- [ ] Leave for 1-2 minutes on greasy or sticky marks
- [ ] Wipe clean with a microfibre cloth
- [ ] Buff glass, mirrors and taps dry for a streak-free finish
- [ ] Rinse food-preparation surfaces with plain water after wiping

Where This Cleaner Works Best

Great For

- Glass, windows and mirrors
- Sealed kitchen worktops and tiles
- Sinks, taps and shower screens
- The outside of appliances
- Sealed floor tiles and laminate
- Bins, door handles and light switches

Never Use On

- Marble, granite, travertine or any natural stone
- Waxed wood and hardwood floors - vinegar dulls the finish
- Cast iron and aluminium - it can discolour the metal
- Rubber seals and gaskets with repeated use
- Phone, tablet and TV screens

Safety and Storage Checklist

- [ ] Never mix vinegar with bleach - together they create a harmful gas
- [ ] Never mix vinegar and hydrogen peroxide in the same bottle
- [ ] Do not add baking soda to the bottle - it neutralises the vinegar and weakens the cleaner
- [ ] Keep the labelled bottle out of reach of children and pets
- [ ] Store in a cool cupboard away from direct sunlight
- [ ] Make a fresh batch after 1 month, and rinse the bottle before refilling
- [ ] Wear gloves if your skin is sensitive, and open a window while you clean

Cut-Out Label for Your Bottle

All-Purpose Vinegar Cleaner

White vinegar + water (1:1) - Do not use on natural stone or waxed wood

_____

Made on (date)

_____

Scent added

Cut along the dashed line, fill in the two lines, and tape the label to your spray bottle so everyone at home knows what is inside.

Notes