

## CLEANING TIPS FROM BRITE & SHINE

Baking soda is a great way to soak up odors in your fridge and freezer. Put a fresh box in the back to soak up those strange smells.

Ketchup is great for french fries and hot dogs, but it can also be used as a cleaner. The natural acid in tomatoes can eat through the tarnish on silver and much more! (Don't worry, Brite & Shine will never clean with ketchup!)

Did you know that you can polish wood furniture with a banana? Spread a bit of ripe banana on the wood, then wipe off with a microfiber cloth. (No, we do not clean with bananas either.)

Did you know you can reduce the amount of dust in your home by wiping your feet before entering the house?

Place a mat on the inside and outside of every entrance to your home to prevent dirt from getting tracked in.

Don't have steel wool? Use can scrub with aluminum foil instead. Save up your aluminum foil scraps instead of throwing them away. Then when your glassware confronts you with tough stains, you can scrub them off while also recycling.

Did you know you can clean a shower curtain in the washing machine? No more scrubbing for half an hour trying to get muck off your shower curtains. Just pop them in your washing machine's gentle cycle with a pint of vinegar and press "start."

Vinegar can be used around the house in so many ways, including as a degreaser. You can add a few drops of vinegar to dish washing soap to blast away unwanted grease and give your dishes extra shine.

Did you know mold can grow at the bottom of the trash can? Mold loves moisture so add 1/2 cup of borax to the bottom of the trash can to absorb mold-causing dampness.

Vodka can be used to clean a mattress. Vodka is a natural disinfectant. Fill a spray bottle and spritz the mattress. Let the surface dry before replacing the sheets. Remember that vodka is flammable. Safety first!

Did you know you can naturally clean fruit using vinegar? Vinegar is a natural disinfectant and an incredibly versatile cleaning tool. Wash your fruit in a sink full of a water and vinegar mixture to disinfect and get rid of bugs and debris.

Did you know mouthwash can be used to mop floors?

If nothing else is at hand, you can mop vinyl or tile floors with mouthwash. Add a capful to a gallon of washing water and start cleaning.

Baby oil can be used as a polisher around the house.

You can add extra shine to your floors with baby oil. It's as easy as adding a few drops to your bucket of mop water!

Did you know scuff marks on vinyl flooring can be removed with baking soda?

Removing scuff marks just got easier! Sprinkle a little baking soda over the scuff mark, let it sit, and then scrub away those marks.

Did you know you can cook a sponge?

Not to eat, to clean! Pop a wet sponge in the microwave for two minutes to kill germs and prolong the life of your sponge. Make sure the sponge is very wet; a dry sponge could start a fire!

Old makeup brushes are perfect for cleaning air vents.

Have a makeup brush you don't use anymore? Don't throw it out. Instead use it to clean air vents and dust off those small slits.

Did you know baking soda can clean a hairbrush?

Remove all the hair then soak the brush for 30-60 minutes in a solution of baking soda and water. Rinse off and your brush is good as new.

Toothpaste can remove permanent marker.

Toothpaste is a very fine abrasive that will remove permanent marker from many surfaces.

You can get rid of baked-on gunk from cookies sheets and other cookware using baking soda and hydrogen peroxide. Just let the piece soak in a mixture of the ingredients.

Dryer sheets aren't just for the dryer. They're great for removing and repelling dust anywhere in the house. Run them over your dust-magnets, like the baseboards or the blades of your ceiling fan.

You can make your dryer sheets do double-duty by using them in the kitchen to remove stuck-on food. Fill the pot with water, throw a dryer sheet in there, and wait. When you clean, there'll be no scrubbing!

Did you know newspaper can clean mirrors, too?

After enjoying your coffee and the morning paper, recycle by putting that paper to work scrubbing streaky mirrors.

Did you know that Play-Doh can be used as a cleaning tool?

You can roll a ball of Play-Doh over an area with broken glass after sweeping to pick up those remaining tiny slivers.

Use dental floss as a cleaning tool. Floss isn't just good for cleaning your teeth. Use it to clean your faucet (or any other hard-to-reach area) by sliding it in small cracks and loosening up dirt and grime.

Did you know beer can remove coffee stains?

Pour a little bit of beer over the coffee stain and scrub. Repeat as needed.

Instead of cleaning your child's dirty toys one by one, throw them in the dishwasher and let the machine do the work for you. Extra time to play with your children and less time cleaning up after them! Always follow the manufacturer's recommendations when you clean your kid's toys.

Did you know you can clean a microwave without scrubbing? It's easy! Fill a bowl with water and a sliced lemon, cook for 2 minutes, then wipe away the dirt and grime.

A squeegee is one of the best tools for removing pet hair from carpet.

Just clean your carpet like you would the windshield of your car.

You can use a butter knife to clean the slits in your air vents.

Wrap a towel around the knife and slide it in the air vent slits to trap dust and dirt.

Hairspray is great for removing lipstick stains.

Spray a little hairspray on the lipstick stain and wipe with a clean cloth. Hairspray will absorb an ink stain too.

You can clean your toilet just by putting vinegar in the water tank.

Fill a glass jar with vinegar and punch a few holes in the lid. Place the jar in the water tank of the toilet upside down. Each flush will clean the toilet bowl.

Did you know baking soda can be used to remove odors on upholstery?

Sprinkle some on the stinky area, wait a few minutes for it to soak up the odors, then vacuum.

Cleaning furniture with a colored cloth can ruin the fabric. Always scrub furniture upholstery with a clean white cloth.