

# Role of Water and Natural Cleaning Chemistry

## Water

- ✓ Water makes up 99% of most cleaning agents. Water is known as the “universal solvent,” for the following reasons:
  - ❑ Assists in the distribution of natural cleaning chemistry to the surface being cleaned
  - ❑ Transfers heat to the surface being cleaned and helps increase the activity of the cleaning chemistry and solubilize of the “Dirt.”

## Detergent/General Cleansers/Degreasers

<http://www.epa.gov/greenhomes/Kitchen.htm>

- ✓ **Chemistry: Castile Soap, Baking Soda, Borax, Salt, Olive Oil**
  - ❑ Uses: Remove/eliminate Visible “Dirt”, Mildew, Mold and Odor. This is the first step to getting your house clean.
  - ❑ Area’s to use: Bathrooms, Kitchen and food contact surfaces

## Acids <http://www.epa.gov/greenhomes/Kitchen.htm>

- ✓ **Chemistry: Citrus Juice (Lemon, Lime & Grapefruit), Vinegar**
  - ❑ Uses: Dissolving film/scale, rust, clean garbage disposal, coffee maker, microwave, toilet bowl cleaner, fabric softener and grout cleaner
  - ❑ Treat impurities in the water – tie up calcium, magnesium and other minerals

## Disinfectants/Sanitizers

<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/druginfo/natural/113.html>

- ✓ **Chemistry: Isopropyl Alcohol, Hydrogen Peroxide and Tea Tree Oil**
  - ❑ Kills or irreversibly inactivates bacteria, fungi and viruses, reduce allergic skin reactions
  - ❑ Mold and mildew control, Tile and grout scrub, Odor eliminator and Laundry bleach