



**BAR  
KEEPERS  
FRIEND**

SINCE 1882

**CLEANSER & POLISH**  
LIMPIADOR PULSOR

**STAINLESS STEEL**  
ACERO INOXIDABLE

**CHROME**  
CROMO

**FIBERGLASS**  
FIBRA DE VIDRIO

**PORCELAIN**  
PORCELANA

**CERAMIC COOKTOPS**  
ESTUPEAS CON SUPERFICIES DE VIDRIO

**COPPER**  
COBRE

**TILE**  
BALDOSA

**BRASS**  
BRONCE

NET WT. 21 OZ.  
Peso Neto 605 g



# Cleaning All-Stars



GIVE THESE 8 PRODUCTS A PLACE OF  
HONOR IN YOUR HOUSEKEEPING  
ARSENAL, BECAUSE THEY TRULY PUT  
THE “MULTI” IN “MULTITASKERS.”



BY LESLIE CORONA

PHOTOGRAPHS BY MITCHELL FEINBERG

# 1


## BAR KEEPERS FRIEND

The ingredient that helps this product shine is oxalic acid, which occurs naturally in veggies like rhubarb and spinach. Bar Keepers Friend was originally marketed (back in 1882) to bartenders so they could polish brass fixtures in their pubs. It now comes in both powder and soft liquid formulas, and we use it to...

**REMOVE RINGS IN THE TOILET.** Let it sit for a few minutes to allow the acidity to work its magic, then scrub it off with your toilet brush. The liquid version is easier to apply (just aim and squeeze), but you can also sprinkle the powder around the bowl.

**ERASE SILVER MARKS ON PLATES.** These scratches are just metal deposits from your silverware, not cracks. Sprinkle some powder on them, rub in a circular motion, and rinse.

**NIX SCUM FROM SHOWER DOORS.** Wet the door, then gently scrub with the powder or liquid. Rinse and dry with a cloth. (Test a small, inconspicuous patch first.)



**TIP** WITH THE POWDER VERSION OF BAR KEEPERS FRIEND, YOU CAN CUSTOMIZE THE CONSISTENCY AND STRENGTH OF THE FORMULA BY ADDING MORE OR LESS WATER.

# 3


## LIQUID DISH SOAP

The classic, really sudsy formulas (sodium laureth sulfate should be at the top of the ingredient list) cut grease in the sink, and also dazzle when you use them to...

**PRETREAT STAINS ON CLOTHING.** Keep it handy on pizza night because it's especially helpful with grease stains. A drop or two is enough. Gently rub it in with your fingers, then throw the garment into the wash.

**REMOVE OIL STAINS FROM DRIVEWAYS.** A squirt of the soap, cool water, and a broom should do the trick. You may need a little more elbow grease if the stain has been there for months.

**CLEAN MAKEUP BRUSHES.** Rinse the bristles, holding the brush upside down so water doesn't collect near the handle, which can weaken the glue. Add a drop of soap to your palm and swirl the brush in it. Rinse again and gently squeeze the bristles—if the water isn't clear, repeat the process. Lay flat to dry, letting the brush head hang over the edge of the table or sink so the shape remains intact.



**TIP** USED DRYER SHEETS ARE ALMOST LIKE MICROFIBER CLOTHS. WHEN YOU TAKE YOUR LAUNDRY OUT OF THE DRYER, GRAB THE SHEET AND WIPE OFF THE LINT TRAP.

# 2

## DRYER SHEETS

They're also hard workers outside the laundry room. We use them to...

**GET DEODORANT STAINS OFF CLOTHING.** Take one that's already been through the dryer, since a fresh one may just replace the deodorant with its own residue. Rub in quick, short strokes.

**DEODORIZE SMALL SPACES.** Place them in drawers, under the seats in your car, and in your gym bag or sneakers.

**DEGREASE OVEN RACKS.** Put two or three sheets in your bathtub, place your racks on top, then fill the tub with water and let sit overnight. The grime will slide right off.



**TIP** THERE'S A CRAZE ON SOCIAL MEDIA THAT INVOLVES ADDING DISH SOAP TO THE WASHING MACHINE TO WHITEN LAUNDRY. PLEASE, ON BEHALF OF YOUR MACHINE, DON'T DO THIS! IT CAN RUIN THE SENSORS.







**DAWN**

ULTRA

50% LESS  
SCRUBBING





**HEINZ**

*All Natural*

**DISTILLED WHITE**

**VINEGAR**

5% ACIDITY

12 FL OZ (349 mL)



# 4

## WHITE VINEGAR

The acetic acid in vinegar gently eliminates grease and grime. We like vinegar for cleaning mirrors and windows, but also use it to...

**DESTROY WEEDS.** Pour vinegar into a one-gallon pump sprayer, which gives you more precision. Soak only the weeds—none of the surrounding foliage. Your regular kitchen vinegar will work here, but if you can find “cleaning vinegar,” which is much stronger, you may have greater success. (Handle this kind with extra caution, and wear gloves.)

**CLEAN THE COFFEE MAKER.** Brew equal parts distilled white vinegar and water. Turn off the coffee maker when half the solution has passed and let it sit for about an hour, then turn it on again to finish the cycle. Run several cycles with clean water until the smell of vinegar is gone.

**POLISH FAUCETS AND SHOWERHEADS.** Pour vinegar into a plastic or zip-top bag. Immerse the fixture in the bag and secure it with a rubber band. Let it sit for a few hours or overnight, then wipe clean with a microfiber cloth.

**CLEAN REUSABLE STRAWS** and other things that go into your mouth. Because vinegar is edible, it’s safe to use—and doesn’t leave a soapy aftertaste.



**TIP** ADD VINEGAR AND SOAP TO A SOAP-DISPENSING DISH BRUSH TO KICK THE CLEANING POWER UP A NOTCH. IT’S GREAT FOR SCRUBBING BATHROOM TILES.

# 5

## STEEL WOOL

Steel wool makes quick work of cleaning pots and pans, but it can also be handy for out-of-the-box chores. Use it to...

**SHARPEN SCISSORS.** Just chop away at the bristles with scissors for a minute or so.

**CLEAN THE METAL ENDS OF GARDEN HOSES AND SPIGOTS.** Your hose should attach seamlessly to the spigot once scrubbed.

**SEAL GAPS UNDER THE SINK TO KEEP PESTS OUT.** Mice will not enjoy chomping through the wool, so it’s a great deterrent.

**SMOOTH OUT PLASTIC CUTTING BOARDS.** If you notice fraying plastic, simply sand it away.



**TIP** STEEL WOOL WILL RESIST RUSTING IF YOU STASH IT IN THE FREEZER IN A ZIP-TOP BAG.



# 6

## HYDROGEN PEROXIDE

It can help bleach your teeth, and also aid you around the house. Use it to...

**WHITEN GROUT.** Dip a toothbrush into the solution and get scrubbing, or create a paste with one part hydrogen peroxide and two parts baking soda. Coat your grout lines with the paste, let it sit for a few minutes, then rinse.

**REMOVE SWEAT, URINE, AND BLOOD STAINS FROM MATTRESSES.** Fill a spray bottle and spritz the stain, then let dry. Repeat until the stain is gone.

**CLEAN PET PEE OFF CARPETS.** Mist the stain until the yellow is pulled out. (Test a small patch of carpet first.)



**TIP** CHECK THE EXPIRATION DATE ON THE BOTTLE: HYDROGEN PEROXIDE ISN’T AS EFFECTIVE IF IT’S PAST DUE.

# 7

## BAKING SODA

You know you need it for baking, and it's a champion at deodorizing a fridge. Also use it to...

**POLISH SILVERWARE.** Mix three parts baking soda and one part water to make a paste, then gently coat your silver using a microfiber cloth; carefully rub. For fine details, lightly scrub with a soft toothbrush. Rinse and dry with a clean microfiber cloth.

**SCRAPE BURNED REMAINS OFF ENAMELED POTS.** Boil just enough water to cover the scorched bits and add four tablespoons of baking soda. Let it cool and scrub with a brush, adding more baking soda if necessary.

**DEODORIZE WOODEN CUTTING BOARDS.** Rub the powder into the grain with the cut side of a lemon half to extract onion and garlic funk.

**TIP** PICK UP A BULK-SIZE PLASTIC BAG (\$6 FOR 5 LB.; PETCO.COM) FOR CLEANING. THE ZIP TOP HELPS PREVENT WATER AND ODOR ABSORPTION.

### OUR EXPERTS

**ALYSSA ARMSTRONG**, FOUNDER OF ALYSSA'S CLEANING COMPANY IN OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, AND CREATOR OF @ALYSSAS CLEANINGCOMPANY ON TIKTOK

**BRANDON PLESHEK**, OWNER OF PIONEER PROFESSIONAL CARPET CARE IN APPLETON, WISCONSIN, AND CREATOR OF @CLEANTHATUP ON TIKTOK

**TIP** BECAUSE OF THE ERASER'S LIGHTLY ABRASIVE QUALITY, DON'T GET TOO AGGRESSIVE RUBBING TROUBLE SPOTS, AND ALWAYS TEST A SMALL SPOT BEFORE GOING FULL DANIEL-SAN.

# 8

## MR. CLEAN MAGIC ERASER

Beyond buffing away soap scum in the tub and crayon scribbles on walls, use these little bricks of melamine foam to...

**SCRUB GREASY FILM OFF POTS** and those brown, cooked-on stains off glass baking dishes. The eraser is also sold in thin sheets, which makes it easy to get into cookware crevices.

**REFRESH WHITE SNEAKERS.** Your kid's kicks will look brand spankin' new. The eraser helps melt away scuffs and dirt on the trim.

**DEGUNK FLAT IRONS**, curling irons, and even your regular iron.

**REMOVE HARD-WATER STAINS** (or just stubborn scum) from glass shower doors and vinyl shower curtains.

**WIPE GRIME OFF KIDDIE POOLS.** Dirt will be a cinch to extract.

**TIP** EVEN THOUGH THEY CAN BE REUSED A FEW TIMES, MAGIC ERASERS AREN'T THAT CUTE AFTER THEY'VE BEEN USED. IF YOU ALWAYS WANT TO WORK WITH A FRESH PIECE, SLICE THE BRICK INTO SMALLER PORTIONS.



