

Planetary Wellbeing

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Green Recipes for Mold and Mildew Remover

Mold and mildew can ruin fabrics, and it is difficult to remove from tile and grout. Store bought mold and mildew remover contains toxic ingredients that are harmful to your health as well as bad for the environment. Our DIY green recipes for mold and mildew remover are safer alternatives to using harsh chemicals for mold and mildew removal, as are all of our [homemade green cleaning recipes](#).

Quick Facts: Health Hazards of Common Mold and Mildew Removers

- **Sodium hydroxide (lye):** Lye is commonly found in store bought mold and mildew removers. It can inhibit reflexes; cause eye and skin burning; and will create severe tissue damage when swallowed.
- **Sodium hypochlorite (bleach):** If you're trying to create a chemical-free home, you should avoid chlorine bleach as you'll find out in our [bleach-free guide](#).
- **Lauramine oxide:** Causes skin, nose, and eye irritation; Aspiration can cause upper airway irritation and respiratory distress, especially in young children. Ingestion can cause caustic injury to the GI tract.



DIY Green Cleaning Recipes for Natural Mold and Mildew Remover

1. **Lemon and salt mold and mildew remover:** Spray or squeeze lemon juice onto the mold or mildew, and then pour salt to form a paste. Scrub and rinse to remove.
2. **White vinegar and tea tree oil mold and mildew remover:** Pour 1 cup of white vinegar into a spray bottle; add twenty drops of tea tree oil and shake. Spray onto the mold or mildew and let sit for 10 minutes. Dampen a cloth with hot water and rub the stain. If any mold or mildew stains remain, repeat the process.
3. **Vinegar mold and mildew remover:** Apply white vinegar directly to the mold or mildew stain and let sit; wipe with a damp cloth to remove any remaining stain.

Dig Deeper: Chemicals in Typical Mold and Mildew Removers

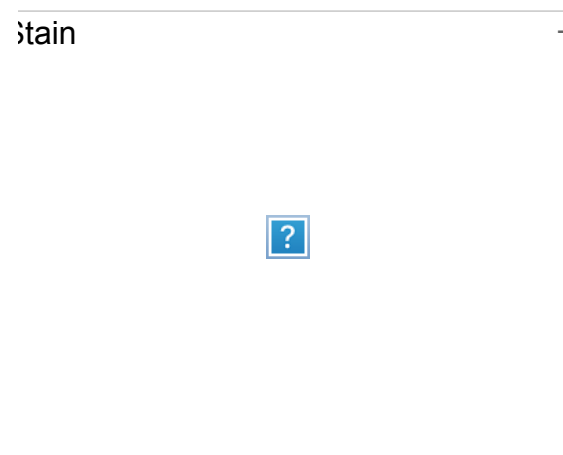
- Lauramine oxide: [Toxicology Data Network](#) or the [EWG's Skin Deep Cosmetics Database](#).
- Sodium hydroxide: [University of Maryland Medical Center](#).
- Image via [SoraZG](#):

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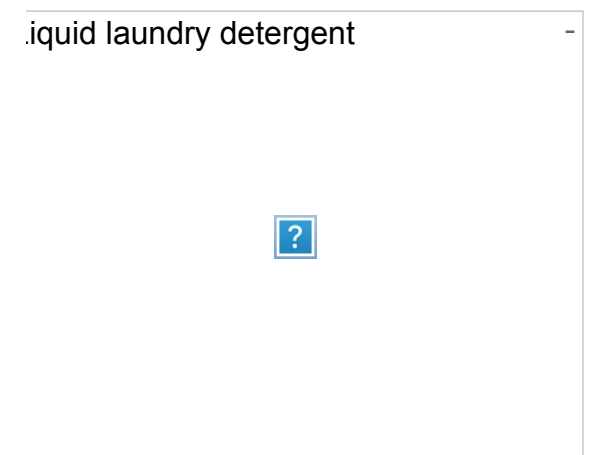
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