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## Recipes For Eco-Friendly Home Made Carpet Fresheners

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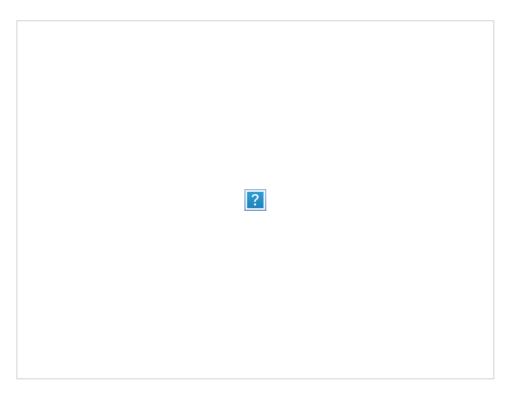
Store bought carpet fresheners are manufactured with harsh fragrances that mask rather than remove odors, and many of their chemicals are toxic. As part of our homemade green cleaning recipes, this guide to making homemade natural carpet fresheners will deodorize your carpets, and ensure they are safe for you, your children, your pets, and the planet.

## Quick Facts: Health Hazards of Common Carpet Fresheners

- Benzyl benzoate: Some carpet fresheners include this ingredient, which is used to kill dust mites in carpet. Inhalation can cause sore throat and coughing; skin or eye contact can cause redness and irritation.
- 1,4 dichlorobenzene: Studies show that this chemical, a deodorant, is carcinogenic in rats, and it can decrease lung function in asthma suffers.

## DIY Green Cleaning Recipes for Carpet **Fresheners**

- 1. Baking soda + natural scents carpet freshener: Add a sprig of fresh lavender or mint, or a couple of lemon or orange peels to a container of baking soda and allow to dry completely. Sprinkle onto your carpet, let it sit for 10 minutes, and
- 2. Baking soda and borax carpet freshener: Combine one box of baking soda and 1/2 cup of borax. If desired, add 20-40 drops of essential oil for natural fragrance and let dry. After sprinkling it on your carpet, let it sit for a few minutes and then vacuum.
- 3. Corn starch and baking soda carpet freshener: Combine one cup of corn starch with one cup of baking soda. Add 20 drops of an essential oil, such as lavender, for fragrance. Sprinkle on your carpet and then vacuum after letting it sit for 10 minutes.



# Dig Deeper: Chemicals in Typical Carpet Fresheners

- Benzyl Benzoate and other fragrance chemicals: Guide to Less Toxic Products.
- 1,4 dichlorobenzene: Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.

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