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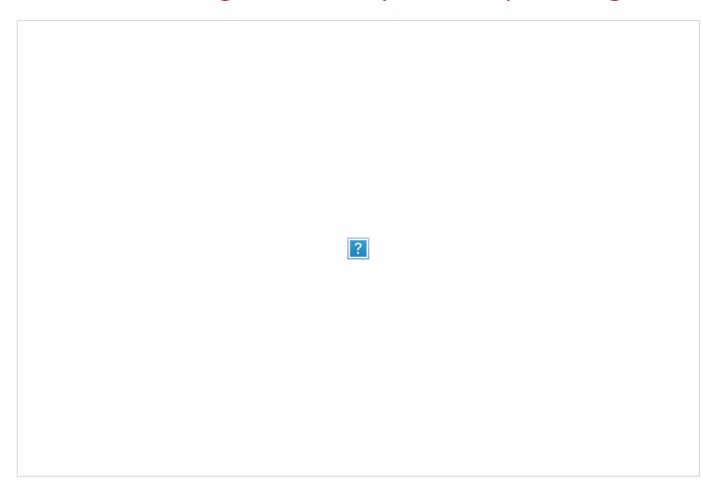


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### Recipes for Natural High Efficiency Laundry Detergent

Get Involved



Getting your clothes clean and white is important, but so is protecting your family. You need special high efficiency laundry detergents for front-loading machines, but store bought versions contain harmful chemicals. Our eco homemade cleaning recipes provide natural high efficiency laundry detergent options that are safe for you and the environment. Check out our other homemade green cleaning recipes for more eco cleaning inspiration.

## Quick Facts: Health Hazards of Common High Efficiency Laundry Detergents

- Sodium laureth sulfate: This chemical is a likely carcinogen and irritates skin and eyes.
- Sodium hypochlorite (bleach): Dioxins and other health and environmental dangers make it important for you to avoid chlorine bleach in your green home.
- **1,4 dioxane**: Nervous system damage, and harm to your kidneys, liver, and blood all result with exposure to this chemical.
- Acetone: This chemical will irritate eyes and skin and could lead to kidney and liver damage.

## DIY Green Cleaning Recipes for High Efficiency Laundry Detergent

- 1. Borax, washing soda, baking soda, and castile soap high efficiency laundry detergent: Grate 2 bars of castile soap and put in a large container. Add 1 cup baking soda, 1 cup washing soda crystals, and 1 cup borax. Mix with a large spoon or spatula. Break up any clumps with hands. Use \( \frac{1}{4} \) cup per load.
- 2. Vinegar, baking soda, castile soap, and washing soda high efficiency laundry detergent. Pour ¼ cup liquid castile soap into a bowl. Add 1 1/2 cups each baking soda and washing soda crystals and blend. Measure 1 cup white vinegar and slowly add to other ingredients. It will bubble, and the mix will become high efficiency after stirring for several minutes. Use 1/3 cup per load.
- 3. **Castile soap, borax, and washing soda high efficiency laundry detergent:** Grate 1 bar of castile soap into a container. Add 1 cup washing soda crystals and 1 cup borax. Stir to blend, breaking up any clumps with hands. Use 1/4 cup per load.
- 4. Baking soda, borax, and castile soap high efficiency laundry detergent. Grate 2 bars of castile soap into a large container. Add 1 box (16 oz.) baking soda, and 2 cups borax. Mix to blend; break up any large clumps with your fingers. Use 1/4 cup per load.

# Dig Deeper: Chemicals in Typical High Efficiency Laundry **Detergents**

- 1,4-dioxane: Science Lab.
- Acetone: Canadian Centre For Occupational Health and Safety.
- Sodium hypochlorite: Delaware Health and Social Services.
- Sodium laureth sulfate: Chemtrade International.

Image via timlweisnm

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