

Reducing HHW in Your Home

Consider reducing your purchase of products that contain hazardous ingredients. Learn about the use of alternative methods or products without hazardous ingredients that can be used for some common household needs.

Below are some ideas to get you started. Additional information is available from:

[EPA's Safer Choice program at...
www.epa.gov/saferchoice](http://www.epa.gov/saferchoice)

Glass Cleaner Mix one tablespoon of vinegar in one quart of water.

Grout The natural acidity in lemons is perfect for tackling any dirt or discoloration in grout. Spray lemon juice on the target area and let sit for at least 10 minutes before scrubbing.

All-Purpose Cleaner ½ Cup White Vinegar,
2 Cups Water and
10 Drops Tea Tree Oil

Tile and Countertops Mixture of
50% Vinegar / 50% Water

Some quick tips for the safe handling of household hazardous wastes include:

- Follow any instructions for use and storage provided on product labels carefully to prevent any accidents at home.
- Keep them in their original containers and never remove labels. Corroding containers, however, require special handling. Call your local hazardous materials official or fire department for instructions.
- When leftovers remain, never mix HHW with other products. Incompatible products might react, ignite, or explode, and contaminated HHW might become unrecyclable.

Household Products Can Harm You

How can you identify these harmful products?

Toxic



The label could say:

- Harmful or fatal if swallowed.
- Use only in a well-ventilated area.

Flammable



The label could say:

- Combustible. Flammable.
- Do not use near heat or flame.
- Do not smoke while using this product.

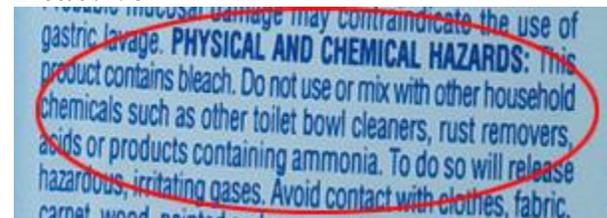
Corrosive



The label could say:

- Causes severe burns on contact.
- Can burn eyes, skin or throat.

Reactive



The label could say:

- Do not mix.

Irritant



Not corrosive, but could irritate skin or eyes.