

# krya

Sustainable Urban Living Guides

D.I.Y Green Cleaners  
for the Home



# Guide to making green cleaners

## What are green cleaners ?

Green cleaners are primarily made from plants like soapberries and neem. They also contain some kitchen ingredients like baking soda, vinegar, and essential oils that improve efficacy and add a pleasant fragrance.

“If it is good for humans, it is good for the environment” is a rule that generally works well. Apart from human safety, green cleaners are biodegradable and do not leave behind a toxic residue after use. And that is why we call them ‘green’ cleaners.



## Why green cleaners?

Plant based active ingredients have an organic response to the cleaning task at hand. They do not have a one size fits all response like chemical additives - neem for example is a great anti-bacterial agent, but very safe for humans. On the other hand, Triclosan commonly found in synthetic cleaners is both anti-bacterial and toxic to humans.

## Where can I find these ingredients?

Some of the ingredients used, like baking soda and vinegar, can be found in a supermarket. Essential oils can be found in supermarkets, organic stores or beauty aid stores.

The natural ingredients are a little trickier – they can be found in old fashioned groceries, country drug stores, stores that supply Ayurvedic or natural medicines, or organic stores.



Krya is India's first sustainable consumer products company.

We create smart, sustainable, and natural alternatives to products you use around your home.

These cleansers are environmentally friendly, safe and non-toxic to your family.

They work at a holistic level to keep your home clean, and safe.

# 1. Dish Wash Powder

## Ingredients

1. Soapberry powder - 450 grams
  - Cleansing and anti-bacterial agent
2. Shikakai Powder - 200 grams
  - Cleanser and grease-cutter
3. Lemon peel powder - 150 grams
  - Anti-bacterial agent and grease cutter
4. Orange peel powder - 100 grams
  - Anti-bacterial agent, pleasant fragrance
5. Neem leaf powder - 100 grams
  - Anti-bacterial agent

## Instructions

Sieve together all the powders using a fine sieve, so that the final dish wash powder has a consistent granularity throughout. Remember to wear a mask or tie a towel over your nose while you work with the powders so that you do not inhale any of the fine powders. Also, remember to work in a still area without a breeze (which can make the powders fly around).

## Usage

This dish wash powder can be used as a substitute to synthetic dish wash bars / powders / pastes or liquids to clean all crockery. If the powder has not been sieved finely, it may scratch non-stick vessels. This cleanser will not foam as much as a synthetic dish cleanser, but it is very gentle on the hands and effective on dirty dishes. The residue from this cleanser is safe and non-toxic to marine organisms and plants.

Use the cleanser with a tough scrubber for a better in-use experience. Coconut fibres work extremely well with this cleanser and also help make the whole process more environmentally friendly.

## 2. Liquid Floor Cleaner

### Ingredients

1. Soapberry powder - 100 grams
  - Cleansing and anti-bacterial agent
2. Neem Oil - 25 ml
  - Anti bacterial agent, insect repellent
3. Citronella Oil - 50 ml
  - Insect repellent, freshness
4. Citric Acid - 25 grams
  - Preservative, mild bleaching agent
5. Arrowroot powder - 20 grams
  - Thickening agent
6. Water -1.2 litres

### Instructions

Mix the citric acid crystals in a small cup of warm water and stir until the crystals dissolve completely. Mix the soapberry powder in 1.2 litres of water and bring it to a boil in a thick bottomed vessel. As the liquid begins to boil, add the arrowroot powder and stir until the liquid thickens to the consistency of a watery shampoo.

Once the liquid has thickened, take it off the flame and add the dissolved citric acid liquid.

Let the soapberry liquid cool slightly before filtering out the soapberry residue.

The residue can be dried and re-used again to make more floor cleanser (the cleanser made with this residue will be more dilute, so reduce the water the second time around) or to do the laundry. The soapberry powder / residue can be re-used until the residue turns grey, indicating the absence of saponins.

Now stir in the neem and citronella oil into the filtered soapberry liquid and mix well. Bottle the liquid floor cleaner and store in a cool, dry place or in the fridge (after labelling it properly).

This recipe should give you approximately 1 litre of liquid floor cleaner.

## 2. Liquid Floor Cleaner

### Usage

This liquid floor cleaner can be used to mop the floors and wash the bathroom floor.

Use a capful of liquid (10 - 15 ml) in a quarter bucket of water to mop the floor. Use it directly on the bathroom floor - add water and work up a lather using a broom to wash out the bathroom floor.

### Caution:

Citric acid has been added to the formulation to keep it from going rancid. Citric acid is a mild bleaching agent, so do not use this liquid on wooden floors. Use it on marble, mosaic, vitrified or other tiled floors only.

If the floor is of a dark colour, using the liquid directly on the floor may bleach the floor - Instead try it in very dilute concentrations on a test patch so that you arrive at the right quantity for your floor.

Even though citric acid has been added as a preservative, soapberry liquid goes rancid fast. This floor cleansing liquid should last, under the right storage conditions, for a month. Storing the liquid in the fridge helps prolong its shelf life - do remember to label it properly to make sure it is not consumed by mistake.

This liquid floor cleaner is safe and non-toxic for adults and children.

### Pet Safety:

Neem oil is safe for both cats and dogs.

Citronella oil is also considered safe and non-toxic for pets. At the level suggested in this formulation, the product is safe for pets.. However cats are known to be sensitive to some essential oils , though citronella is not known to be a cat irritant.

If you have pets (especially cats), citronella oil can be skipped as a precautionary measure - it will reduce the fragrance of the floor cleanser, but will still work just as well.

# 3. Instant Bottle cleaner

## Ingredients per bottle

1. Soapberry powder - 1 teaspoon
  - Cleansing and anti-bacterial agent
2. Baking powder - 1/2 teaspoon
  - Deodorizer, cleanser
3. Vinegar - 2 tablespoons
  - Mineral deposit dissolver on glass, mild disinfectant

## Instructions

Add the ingredients in the order given above to the empty bottle.

Once the vinegar is added to the other 2 ingredients, the chemical reaction between the baking soda and the vinegar will release Carbon dioxide and create a thick foam which will rise. Add some water to this and use a bottle scrubber to work the cleaning mixture throughout the bottle.

Rinse thoroughly after cleaning the bottle, and leave the bottle in an upside-down position to dry after rinsing.

# Thank you for downloading the **krya** guide to green cleaners!

## About krya

We create smart, sustainable alternatives to everyday products. We call them sustainable goodies.

All our sustainable goodies, are completely natural, minimally processed and vegan to boot - and we never ever test on animals.



## krya's first sustainable goodie

Our detergent is made by skilfully powdering sun-ripened, hand-picked, de-seeded, certified organic Soapberries.

No petroleum based surfactants, fragrances, colours, bleaches, enzymes, fillers or any other chemical additives powder or all natural detergent.

Krya detergent can be used in all washing machines or for

## Where can I find out more ?



- [goodies@krya.in](mailto:goodies@krya.in)



- [www.facebook.com/kryagoodies](http://www.facebook.com/kryagoodies)



- <http://blog.krya.in>



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