




Pet-Safe Cleaning Guide

from OhMyDogBlog.com



*"Cleaning is therapy
for me. I'm not ashamed
of holding the duster
or broom."
- Amisha Patel*



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What is Pet-Safe Cleaning?

Pets make messes. Lots of them.

Some are big—think: overnight accidents from GI distress—and some are small. But, our dogs, cats, ferrets, bunnies, birds, and lizards leave us with a lot of cleaning to do.

Unfortunately, many commercial cleaning products can harm our sweet animals (and ourselves), and many cleaning habits create tons of trash. Luckily, there are easy ways to keep your house clean and non-toxic for all who live and breathe there!

Bonus: Most save you a ton of money!

Paper towels, toxic cleansers in plastic bottles, plastic garbage bags, and the rubber gloves you need to protect your skin from the harmful chemicals... it all adds up quickly. Our pets don't have rubber gloves to protect their paws from the cleaners they walk in all day every day. And I don't know about your pets, but mine spend a good part of their day licking themselves. I don't want them ingesting all that gunk!

That's where this ebooklet comes in. With a few simple ingredients, your house can be spotless and nontoxic in no time! Your air will be cleaner, and your surfaces will shine.

Your pets (and your wallet) will thank you!



3-Ingredient All-Purpose Cleaner

What you need:

1. Water (tap is A-OK!)
2. Distilled white vinegar
3. A spray bottle

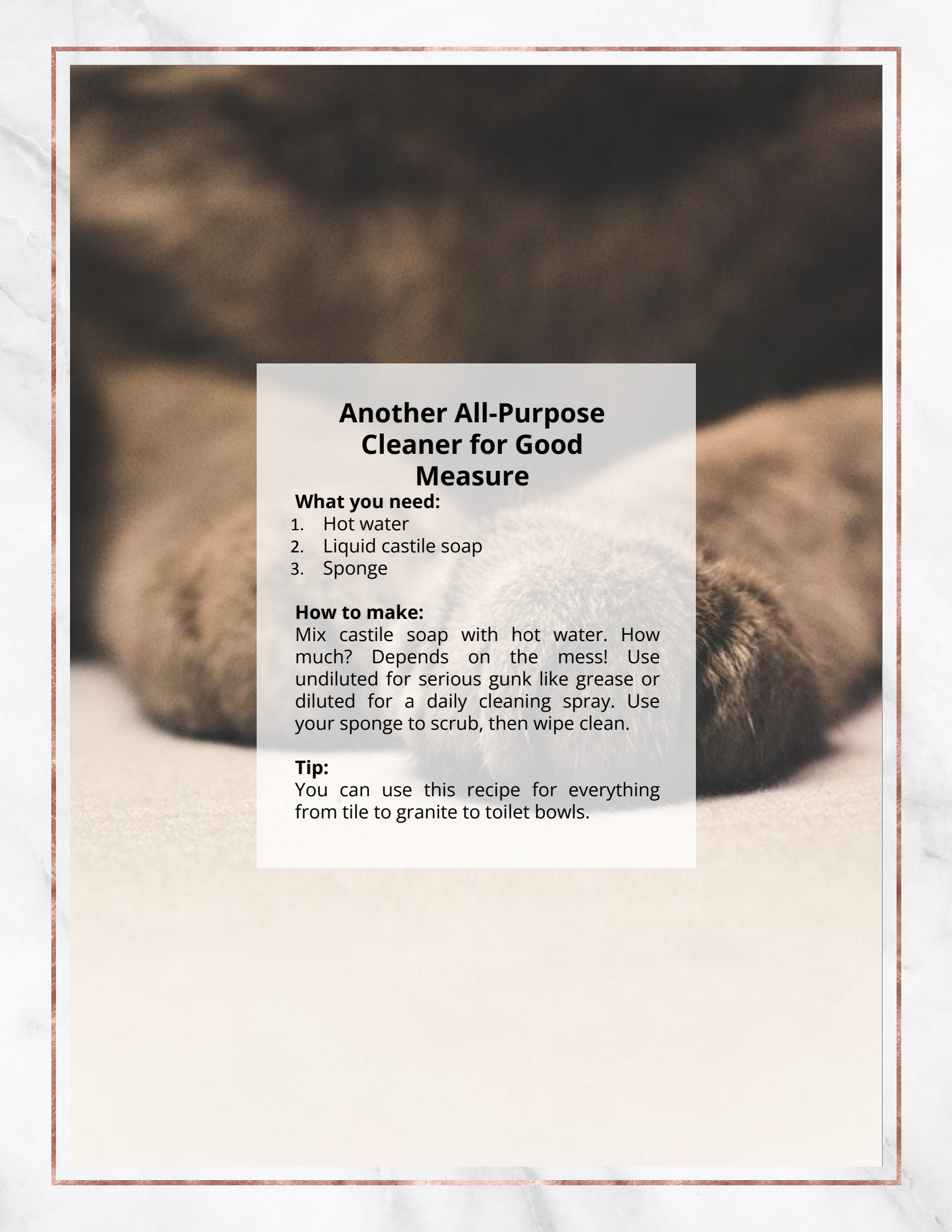
Optional: A drop or two of essential oil (This is controversial in the pet community, so you have to do what you're comfortable with. I'm OK with a drop or two of lemongrass in my mix, and it smells lovely.)

How to make:

Combine equal parts water and vinegar. If you're cleaning something super grimy, use hot water. Add your drops of essential oil if you're using it. Swirl the bottle, and get scrubbing! If you do your surfaces every day, you won't see any build-up and won't have to contend with giant messes that necessitate anything harsher! BTW, I do use this on my hardwoods, too, and they come out gleaming! If you're unsure about any of your surfaces, test a small, inconspicuous area before going wild.

One word of warning:

Vinegar-based cleaners should never be used on stone. We moved into a house with granite countertops, so I had to swap this cleaner for another (see the next recipe!) in the kitchen but this is my tried-and-true everywhere else.



Another All-Purpose Cleaner for Good Measure

What you need:

1. Hot water
2. Liquid castile soap
3. Sponge

How to make:

Mix castile soap with hot water. How much? Depends on the mess! Use undiluted for serious gunk like grease or diluted for a daily cleaning spray. Use your sponge to scrub, then wipe clean.

Tip:

You can use this recipe for everything from tile to granite to toilet bowls.

Sew Your Own Un-Paper Towels

Fun fact: Did you know: A paper towel standard is 11x11" square?



What you need:

- An old bath towel
- Another old fabric something (flannel or just plain old cotton)
- Sewing machine and thread (you could do this by hand if you don't have a machine!)

How to make these:

1. Cut your fabric into 12-14" squares.
2. Put two pieces of fabric together with the right sides together (the sides that will be OUT in the end). Pin them together leaving a three-inch gap. You're not going to sew that gap because that's where you'll flip it right-side out in the end.
3. Sew! If it's not a straight line, don't worry. Remember: This is the insides.
4. Trim the excess fabric at the corners (to cut down on bulk).
5. Flip the un-paper towel right-side out through the gap you left, and use a ruler, pen, hanger, whatever to poke out the corners.
6. Sew a border the whole way around. This adds decoration and closes the gap you left.

Fold them neatly and place them on the counter, in a basket, or in a big jar.

BTW, there is [a much cooler tutorial on A Beautiful Mess](#) that includes snaps in the corners so that you can actually put a whole roll on a paper towel roll. SO COOL!




Thank you so much for being here.

I love to clean. I blast hip hop and dance around while I scrub. It relaxes me. I know most people don't feel the same, though I'm hoping these simple recipes inspired you to tackle your home in a pet-safe, environmentally-responsible, and budget-friendly way.

A little goes a long way: Strive to clean up for 20 minutes a day, and your home will never get so messy that it takes hours and hours to catch up. Use these recipes for your daily cleaning (I keep a few glass bottles prepped in my laundry room), and cleaning might become something you love, too! 😊 Well, maybe not... but it won't be as painful or toxic!

Want to learn more? Visit me at OhMyDogBlog.com or on Instagram @maggiearton! Lots of love to you and your furries,

maggie



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