

# Wipe Out! Make Your Own Cleaning Wipes

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Who doesn't love commercial cleaning wipes? They're wickedly convenient--but also wickedly expensive and often contain harsh chemicals. The alternative: make your own! Homemade cleaning wipes are easy to make, economical, and contain only those cleaning agents you select. Put homemade cleaning wipes to work for you in your organized home with our easy instructions:



## Materials and Equipment Needed:

cylindrical plastic food storage container, 10 c. capacity  
extra-large roll of paper towels  
cleaning agents of your choice (recipes follow)  
electric drill with 1/2" drill bit  
electric knife  
liquid measuring cups

## Instructions:

In the garage or workshop area, place a small block of wood beneath the plastic food storage container lid. Use electric drill to drill a 1/2-inch diameter hole in the center of the container lid.



For best results, select an extra-large roll of good quality paper towels for this project. Less-expensive towels fray or shred when pulled through the holder; thicker quilted towels have greater cleaning strength and withstand more scrubbing. Even at \$1.39 per roll, cost for

homemade wipes will be less than 75 cents, not including the storage container.

Without removing the paper towel wrapper, use the electric knife to cut the paper towel roll into two shorter rolls. Save the second roll for a refill later. Be patient! It may take up to two minutes to cut through the towel roll and cardboard tube inside.

Remove the wrapper, and place one short paper towel roll inside plastic food storage container. Using a liquid measuring cup, gently pour one of the following cleaning solution recipes over the top of the paper towel roll.

You will need between 2 and 4 cups of cleaning solution, depending on the size and absorbency of the paper towel product selected. These recipes make about three cups of solution; increase or decrease amounts if needed.

### General Surface Cleaning:

1 1/2 c. white vinegar  
1 1/2 c. water

### Disinfectant Cleaning:

1/4 - 1/2 c. pine cleaning solution  
such as Pine-Sol brand  
2 1/2 - 2 3/4 c. water

### Window and Glass Cleaning:

1/2 c. rubbing (isopropyl) alcohol  
2 1/2 c. water  
1 T. white vinegar

Place the lid on the plastic food storage container, and allow paper towels to absorb cleaning solution for 4 hours to overnight.

Open the food storage container. Gently pull the wet cardboard tube from the center of the paper towel roll and discard. Carefully pull the end of the paper towels from the inside, where the cardboard roll had been. Thread the end of the towels through the hole in the lid, and replace the lid.

Pull gently on the exposed end to separate the cleaning wipe.

## Tips:

As you use the wipes, they will begin to dry out, so add more water and/or cleaning solution as necessary. Allow wipes to stand overnight before continuing to use them after adding more solution.

You may vary the strength of the cleaning solutions as necessary for your household, using more cleaning agents for a stronger wipe, less solution and more water for a milder product.