

## Cleaning with Hydrogen Peroxide

Hydrogen Peroxide is commonly used for many different purposes. Sometimes hydrogen peroxide is referenced by its chemical formula,  $H_2O_2$ .

This article deals with hydrogen peroxide uses in cleaning products.

### What make Hydrogen Peroxide Special?

Hydrogen peroxide is sometimes referred to as Oxygen Bleach because of its oxidizing capabilities. Hydrogen Peroxide is an oxidizing agent because it promotes chemical reactions through the transfer of oxygen atoms. This property helps....

- Break down stains
- Whiten and brighten colors
- Destroy odor causing bacteria
- Deodorize Surfaces

Chlorine Bleach (Household Bleach) is also an oxidizing agent but with some very important differences when compared to Hydrogen Peroxide.

|                               | Hydrogen Peroxide                                                       | Household Chlorine Bleach                                                 |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Safe on Fabrics?</b>       | Yes, does not discolor.                                                 | No, readily damages fabrics.                                              |
| <b>Is it Green?</b>           | Yes, decomposes to oxygen and water.<br>$H_2O_2 \rightarrow H_2O + O_2$ | No, releases fumes and can adversely react with other chemical compounds. |
| <b>Can it kill germs?</b>     | Yes                                                                     | Yes                                                                       |
| <b>pH of common solutions</b> | Acidic pH of 3-4                                                        | Alkaline, pH of 12                                                        |

Hydrogen peroxide for cleaning is formulated in solutions characterized as a mildly acidic pH, which makes the hydrogen peroxide shelf stable. The mildly acidic pH also aids in cleaning pH sensitive soils like hard water, soap scum, grout, etc.

To learn more about pH and cleaning, please read the [Power of pH](#) which explains how knowledge of pH can help solve tough cleaning problems.

**H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>**  
**+ Detergent**  
**+ pH stabilization**  


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**= Powerful Cleaning**

**Does Hydrogen Peroxide Clean?** By itself, hydrogen peroxide does not clean. Combining with ingredients that are safer for people and the environment, a hydrogen peroxide fortified cleaning product offers a new class of green cleaning products. Look for Green Seal Certified products or other third party green certifications.

**Clean Just About Everything:** Hydrogen Peroxide Cleaners are highly cost effective when formulated as concentrates. Typically, different dilutions are used for different cleaning tasks. Because of the wide spectrum of cleaning tasks performed, a hydrogen peroxide cleaning product can replace multiple cleaning products.

**Is it a Disinfectant?** Be careful here, one popular product on the market that contains hydrogen peroxide does have some disinfecting claims, but only if used at a very high, costly concentration. Most hydrogen peroxide cleaning products do not have registered pesticide claims. It is important to note that commercial products containing hydrogen peroxide can and do say they are effective on counteracting foul smells caused by odor causing bacteria.

| Use on.....           |
|-----------------------|
| Windows               |
| Mirrors               |
| Stainless Steel       |
| Countertops           |
| Carpet Stain Removal  |
| Restroom Cleaning     |
| Tub & Shower          |
| Chrome Fixtures       |
| Kitchen Cleaning      |
| Deodorizing Surfaces  |
| Carpet Pre-Spray      |
| VCT & Linoleum Floors |
| Grout Cleaning        |
| Tables, Desks, Chairs |
| Ceramic Tile          |
| Walls/Partitions      |
| Sealed Wood           |
| Vinyl Trim            |
| Painted Surfaces      |
| Aluminum & Brass      |



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**007HD**



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**Multi-Task Dispenser**

