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### Day 21 Greener Challenge



The cleaning products at my family's house are (from left to right): *Dawn Ultra Dishwasher Liquid Soap*<sup>[1]</sup>, *Nature's Miracle 3-in-1 Odor Destroyer*, *Swiffer Dust and Shine Furniture Spray*<sup>[1]</sup>, *Cascade Dishwasher Detergent*<sup>[1]</sup>, *Windex Original Cleaner with Ammonia-D*<sup>[2]</sup>, *Dr. Bronner's 18-in-1 Hemp Rose Castile Soap*, *The Simply Co.*

*Laundry Detergent*, *Swiffer Wet Jet Floor Cleaner*<sup>[1]</sup>, *Windex Multi-Surface Disinfectant Cleaner*<sup>[2]</sup>, *Pledge Multi-Surface Wipes*<sup>[2]</sup>, *Murphy Multi-Use Wood Cleaner*, *Lysol Kitchen-Pro Antibacterial Cleaner*, *Clorox Disinfecting Wipes*, *Shout Laundry Stain Remover*<sup>[2]</sup>, *Tide Laundry Detergent*<sup>[1]</sup>.

[1]= products manufactured by Proctor and Gamble- a large cleaning and body care corporation.

[2]= products manufactured by SC Johnson- another large conventional corporation.

\*Out of all 16 products, only two (12.5%) of the cleaning products are nonconventional products made by sustainable companies [Dr. Bronner's and The Simply Co.] and of the remaining 14 conventional cleaning products: 5 out of the 14 (35.7%) are manufactured by Procter and Gamble, and 4 out of the 14 (28.5%) are manufactured by SC Johnson.

**Windex Original Glass Cleaner with Ammonia-D as found by the EWG database contains:**

*Ammonium hydroxide, hexoxyethanol, fragrance, mirapol surf S-210 polymer, videt EGM, sulfonic acids; C14-17-sec-alkane; sodium salts, liquitint sky blue, isopropyl alcohol, water, propylene glycol*

As found on *amazon.com*, a 3 pack of Windex Original with Ammonia-D costs 19.78~ so **each bottle of is about \$6.59.**

The overall product rating of this product is **D**.

- **Ammonium Hydroxide (rated F):** Ammonium hydroxide is very toxic to aquatic life and is of HIGH concern; can cause severe skin burns and eye damage and is of HIGH concern; can be an asthmagen and is of MODERATE concern
  - **Hexoxyethanol (rated D):** Hexoxyethanol can cause severe skin burns and eye damage and is of HIGH concern; can be harmful if swallowed and is of MODERATE concern; can be harmful if in contact with skin and is of MODERATE concern
  - **Fragrance (rated D):** Fragrance has high acute toxicity to aquatic life and is of SOME concern; can cause respiratory symptoms and histamine release and is of SOME concern; can cause skin allergies and is of SOME concern
- A more sustainable alternative to this window cleaner would be...**



**Attitude Window and Mirror Eco Cleaner (as found by searching EWG)**

This alternative product was rated an **A** by the EWG database. **The ingredients as listed by the EWG database are:** *Citrus aurantifolia* (lime) oil, *lavandula angustifolia* (lavender) oil, pure essential oils, coco-glucoside, lauryl glucoside, alcohol denatured, water. **The retail price, as found from amazon.com, is \$11.79.**



I will definitely make the switch to this more sustainable alternative window cleaning product. Attitude uses primarily essential oils, while Windex uses ammonium hydroxide, and other harmful chemicals that had adverse effects on both personal health, and environmental health. By buying the sustainable alternative, you are economically sending the message that sustainability and personal health are important to you. Instead of surrounding ourselves with harmful chemicals, I would tell my friends that finding safer alternatives is an easy way to be a more conscious shopper- benefitting you and the environment.

**Cami Provencher**

Just now · 🌐

Attitude Window and Mirror Eco Cleaner vs. Windex Cleaner with Ammonia-D- which is safer? switching from conventional cleaning products to more sustainable cleaning products can benefit both you and the environment! conventionally used ingredients such as ammonium hydroxide, fragrances, and other anti-microbial pesticides can be toxic to our water way systems/aquatic life, and can also cause respiratory and allergen issues to one's own personal health. Using the [Environmental Working Group](#) database is an easy way to understand what ingredients are in your cleaning products, and therefore, we should always be conscious of what is in our cleaning products before we buy/use them! [Turning Green](#) #PGC2017

