

Easy fast homemade laundry detergent



Making laundry soap is fast, easy, fun and a great way to save on your monthly laundry bill. Why pay the high price of laundry detergent when you can make it and use the money you save for something else?

I have tried making several different recipes and this recipe is the best I've found. It makes 3 gallons of laundry detergent and is easily stored in 1 gallon milk containers after it is made.

Below is a list of things that you need before you start.



- 1 cup of washing soda
- 1 cup of Mule Team borax
- 1 bar of hand soap
- 1 lemon (optional)
- Essential oils (optional)

- 1 five gallon bucket
- 3-1 gallon containers (or containers of your choice)
- Pan for boiling water
- Box grater (easiest)/potato peeler or food processor

A Braun hand mixer (optional)

Funnel (optional)

I use Fels Naptha bar soap. If you use this soap you only need to grate 2/3 of a bar instead of using the entire bar. You can use what ever soap you choose but this soap is a great option for a low suds laundry detergent. Another good bar soap that I use is PURE-CASTILE-SOAP. This is a gentle vegan soap that is made with organic oils. I use the "Baby Mild" soap to create a laundry soap that is fragrance free. You can find PURE-CASTILE-SOAP on line at www.drbronner.com I then add what ever essential oils that I want to my laundry detergent. Essential oils can be found in many health food stores and online.

The first thing that you want to do is grate your bar of hand soap. Remember to use only 2/3 of the Fels Naptha bar soap if that is the hand soap you choose to use. I like Fels Naptha because of the fresh scent.

Grated Fels Naptha on Left and Pure-Castile-Soap on the right

The next thing that you want to do is bring 4 cups of water to a boil. Add your grated soap a little at a time and mix until dissolved. I boil for a minute or two longer just to make sure all the soap is dissolved. Pull off the burner and set aside.



Squeeze the juice of one or two lemons into your pan of soap water. Lemon is not only a great scent it will also help in keeping your whites white.

The next thing that you will need is one of your 1 gallon milk jugs and your five gallon bucket. Place your five gallon bucket on the floor next to your sink and use your one gallon milk jug to fill hot water from the tap. You will need 3 gallons of hot tap water in your 5 gallon bucket. As soon as you have got all of your water into your 5 gallon bucket measure out 1 cup of Borax and one cup of Washing Soda and pour into your five gallon bucket of hot water. Mix until the soap is dissolved. Now you want to pour your pan of hot soap water from the stove into your five gallon bucket and mix thoroughly.

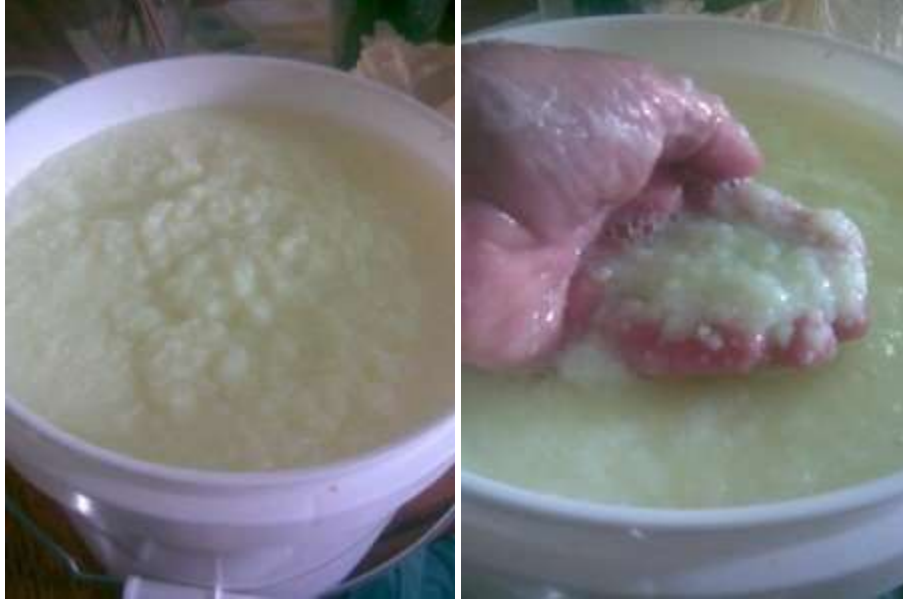
Place a lid or towel over the bucket and set aside until the next morning. When you take the lid off the next morning you will discover a gel like substance in your bucket. The laundry

detergent will look slimy but that's ok! I have posted a couple pictures of what your detergent will look when you have let it sit 24 hours.

SOAP MADE RIGHT



SOAP MADE WRONG!



Most recipes will say to stir well and place in usable containers. I take it a step farther and pour about a gallon or so into a separate bucket and then use my handy Braun hand mixer to mix it up really good. It is at this point that if I want to use different essential oils to make a fragrant laundry detergent I will add it before I pour my finished product into a 1 gallon jug.

Finished Product



The color of your laundry detergent will be determined by the color of your bar soap. When I used Fels Naptha my soap turned out yellow. When I used the unscented Baby-Mild Pure-Castile-Soap my laundry detergent turned out white.

You will need $\frac{1}{2}$ a cup for small load or 1 cup for large.

Thanks and enjoy

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