

## **HOW TO CLEAN YOUR AIRSTREAM, etc.**

Compiled from notes taken by Renee Rawn and Terry Pflieger at a talk given at the Region 7 Rally, August 2021. Compiled by Terry Pflieger.

### **Aluminum interior:**

-A cloth diaper only

### **Airstream Exterior:**

- For sunscreen handprints use dawn dish soap and a white microfiber cloth.
- Use Sharkskin as an aluminum protective
- Collin Hyde Podcast
- For corrosion, take the clear coat off, and polish and wax.

### **Awning:**

-Awning cleaner from Zip-Dee: spray on both sides of the awning, roll up, wash your camper, then unroll and rinse the awning..

### **Blinds:**

- Vacuum them.
- Use Well-worth Fabri-Foam on a toothbrush for fly stains.
- Use Pledge on a white cloth to dust.

### **Carpet or Cloth:**

- Well-Worth Fabri-Foam
- Don't rub-press down hard, but dab.

### **Curtains:**

- Wash in hot water with 1/2 C. OxiClean. Rinse in cold water. Squeeze out excess water. Hang to dry until nearly dry, then hang up in camper.
- Hang in the sun to sanitize.

### **Floor:**

- The best way is on hands and knees. Otherwise, a Steam Mop works well.
- Softscrub and a fingernail brush, or inside-out white socks, or white microfiber cloth.

### **Directions:**

Use a shop vac or other vacuum cleaner to suck up dirt. For spots and stains spray hot water and dish soap or Well-worth Fabri-Foam on the stain. Get on your hands and knees and use the brush or inside out white socks to get the chemicals to capture the stain. Let sit for 10 minutes. Use white microfiber to blot up the water. This will pull the dirt/stain into the rag. Do not rub back and forth as this will spread the dirt.

### **Leather:**

- Just use water.
- Lexall Leather Conditioner-works well for truck leather and is safe for pets.

### **Mouse Fur (fuzzy interior walls):**

- To a clear 1 quart spray bottle, add 1/2 C Clorox Bleach. Fill it with cold water and 1 ice cube. After the ice cube melts, spray the whole panel (cover anything you don't want the solution to touch). Walk away and let it work its magic. DO NOT SCRUB.

### **Odors:**

- In camper, pour baking soda on the carpet and close up the camper for one week in hot weather. Then vacuum.
- Cloth Couch-use Well-Worth Fabri-Foam and rub in with an inside-out white sock.
- Leave a bag of charcoal open on a plastic garbage bag and that will also absorb the smells. Great to use when winterizing the trailer.
- Odor Science can purify a vehicle by putting pod in a cup and turning on car for a bit. Let sit for a day and then open up windows.
- Dryer sheets will also remove smoke smells from cars.

### **Pests:**

Ants: Apple cider vinegar in a spray bottle. Spray on tires and jack stands.

Rodents (Chipmunks) - pour beer in a pan and they will drink it and get drunk and drown.

Mice - Cling Free brand fabric softener 'Summer Breeze' (never lilac scent-they love it!). Put one in every drawer and compartment.

Bugs on Windshield: Keep aforementioned dryer sheets in a bag the next spring, and use to wipe bugs off of windshield.

### **Pleather or Vinyl:**

- Use Dawn dish soap in water.
- Use a soft toothbrush in the seams to knock out dirt.
- Use a white cloth or white paper towels. (Printed can leave ink stains).
- Use painters' tape or masking tape to lift/remove any silicone that gets on the couch or seat.

### **Rock Guards:**

- Dollar General brand Stainless Steel cleaner.

**Shower, etc.** (camper toilet, sink, anything outside the camper):

- Bike Spirits Motorcycle Spray Cleaner and Polish. Clean the item VERY well, then spray with this. It will keep dirt, soap scum, etc. from building up.

### **Walls (like wallpaper):**

- A tiny bit of vinegar and Dawn dish soap in a gallon of water.

### **Windows and mirrors:**

- Reuse dryer sheets to get bugs on window shields.
- Use blue microfiber cloths for windows and mirrors using Windex.

**Vehicle Carpet** (road salt stains):  
-Black brewed coffee (not instant coffee!)

## **Nevers!**

-NEVER use anything with citrus or silicone in it (this includes products such as Pledge Lemon, Armorall, and Well-Worth Fabri-Foam Orange can (with citrus)).

-Don't use lysol on materials that animals will lie on. Do not use on leather/pleather.

-Do not use Armor All. It heats up material and causes drying, and cracking. It is also unsafe for pets.

-NEVER clean anything in sunlight.

## **Supplies**

- Microfiber cloths (microfiber.com): white for most stains; blue for windows; orange for makeup stains.
- White cloth diapers
- Dawn dish soap
- Well-Worth Fabri-Foam - Fabric and velour cleaner (Pink/Purple can **only**)
- OxiClean
- Odor Science-purifies and sanitizes car, etc. Good for allergies.
- Charcoal
- Cling-Free brand fabric softener 'Summer Breeze' (never lilac!)
- CRC Brakleen-cleans very bad stains-leaves no residue.
- Bike Spirits Motorcycle Spray Cleaner and Polish-use on shower, camper toilet, sink, anything outside the camper
- Coffee (brewed, not instant)
- Beer
- Apple Cider Vinegar
- Pledge (NO citrus-NOT Lemon Pledge)
- Clorox bleach
- Sharkskin
- Soft tip toothbrush
- Scrub brush
- Steam Mop
- Shop vac or other vacuum cleaner
- Lexall leather conditioner
- Windex