

Eight Alternative Uses for Table Salt

Table salt has many other uses than simply seasoning your food. Here are a few examples.



1. An ingredient in homemade brass and copper polish

Make a paste using equal parts of salt, flour and water. Use a soft cloth to rub this into the copper or brass item to be cleaned and then rinse with warm, soapy water. When dry, buff up for a gleaming shine. It is certainly far cheaper than using shop bought cleaning products.

2. Restoring a sponge to pristine condition.

To restore your sponge to its original condition, simply soak it overnight in a solution consisting of a quarter of a cup of salt added to a litre of water.

3. Keeping your windscreen frost free.

In winter, keep a small cloth bag of salt in your car. When the windscreen and other windows are wet, rub them with the bag. The next time you go out to your car in the cold weather, the windows will not be covered with ice or snow. It works in a similar way as when you would put salt on your path and driveway in extreme weather to clear ice etc.

4. Cleaning wicker furniture.

When exposed to the sun and the elements, wicker furniture can yellow and become unsightly. To keep it looking as it should, scrub it with a stiff brush dipped in warm salted water and leave it to dry. Well worth doing on an annual basis.

5. Freshen your trainers.

Trainers and canvas shoes can become very smelly, especially if worn in summer without wearing socks. Sprinkling a little salt inside these shoes will help dispel the moisture and help remove that awful aroma.

6. Removing shirt perspiration marks.

To remove those stubborn perspiration marks from shirts, dissolve 4 tablespoons of salt into a litre of hot water and then sponge the garment with this solution until the stains disappear.

7. Sealing in the colour in new towels.

On the first two or three occasions that you wash new coloured towels, add a cup of salt to the wash. This will seal the colour in, keeping your towels brighter for longer.

8. A few miscellaneous other uses for salt

- A dash of salt in warm milk makes a more relaxing beverage.
- A tiny pinch of salt in your egg whites makes them beat up fluffier.
- Try rinsing a sore eye with a little salt water.
- Mildly salted water makes an effective mouthwash. Use it hot for a gargle for sore throats.
- A dash of salt enhances the taste of tea, coffee and cocoa.
- Use a mixture of salt and lemon juice to clean piano keys.
- Salty water boils faster when cooking eggs.