

Vinyl Record Cleaning Solution and Method

Basic record cleaning recipes use just 4 ingredients:

- 1- distilled purified water,
- 2- grocery store, household cleaner
- 3- Isopropyl alcohol 70-95%
- 4- Rinse Aid

They are available in all grocery stores and most convenience stores nationwide. The household cleaner is basically the common ALL-PURPOSE cleaner/disinfectant sold in grocery stores. The active ingredients should be listed as *alkyl dimethyl benzyl ammonium chloride* and will range in concentration from 0.1 to 1.0 %. The isopropyl alcohol is commonly available at 70 and 95 % concentrations.

Distilled Water	900ml	Dilutant medium
All Purpose Cleaner – <i>alkyl dimethyl benzyl ammonium chloride</i>	50ml	Breaks down dirt and grime
The isopropyl alcohol 70-95%	20-40ml	Breaks down grease
Rinsing solution		
Distilled Water	1000ml	
Rinse Aid – surfactant dryer	5ml	Releases surface tension

How this recipe works

The all purpose cleaner breaks down the dirt and grime deposited on the record. You have to allow 2 – 3 minutes for the chemistry to work. The isopropyl alcohol 70-95% converts the fats grease and oils deposited to an ester that the water can remove. Finally the rinse aid makes the water run off and not stick to the record by reducing the surface tension, like in a dishwasher.

Method for cleaning

Wear new vinyl rubber gloves and use a micro-fibre cloth to apply liberally the solution. Gently rub the cloth in a counter-clockwise direction (the same way the stylus travels in the record groove).

Rinse with rinsing solution and allow to dry standing on edge.

When dry store in new plastic sleeves, discard old sleeve as these can contaminate the clean recordings!

More information contact:

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