Ask Jon Eakes

Cleaning window blinds

Last Updated: Wednesday, March 27th, 2013, Created: Tuesday, September 14th, 1999

Someone asked me how to clean window blinds, and rather than venturing a wild guess, I asked our viewers to let us know how they clean their window blinds, when they do it themselves. The majority of our viewers clean their blinds in the bathtub, standing them up on end. Most of the rest do it outdoors. Surprisingly only 8% of our letter writers said they washed them in the shower, like I do. What did they use to clean them? They used lots of different products, but they seemed to all agree that they did not like things made to clean windows as these tended to leave streaks or even stains. Dish soap headed the list, followed by Fantastic and then various other cleaners. One person used vinyl floor cleaner -- which made a lot of sense to me since most of the blinds are made of vinyl. Most people stood them up on end to drip dry while two people rigged up clothes hangers to allow them to hang from the shower curtain. Thanks folks -- I hadn't cleaned a lot of blinds in my life.

Keywords:

Cleaning

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