



HOW TO CLEAN RUBBER BATH MATS

Rubber bath mats should be cleaned periodically to remove oily buildup from the various soaps and hair products which can leave slippery films on the surface. The bathroom is often a confined space where temperature fluctuates. Mold and mildew can develop and lead to a foul-smelling odors. Worse, the filmy buildups can pose a hazard when stepping into or out of a shower or bathtub.

BY HAND

Step 1. Make sure the bathroom area is well-ventilated

Before preparing a diluted bleach solution, open a window or leave the bathroom door open. Fumes from using bleach or making a bleach solution can be noxious and cause dizziness.

Step 2. Measure the amount of bleach to be used

Have a measuring cup or tablespoon handy. Do not pour bleach indiscriminately into the cold water. Unequal parts of bleach to water may create a more potent and dangerous solution and cause dizziness or breathing problems. Some recommended measurements are as follows:

- Add 1 teaspoon (4.9 mL) of chlorine bleach to 1 gallon (3.8 L) of water for normal cleaning.
- Add 1 cup (240 mL) of chlorine bleach to 5 gallons (19 L) of water for heavier cleaning.

Step 3. Prepare a diluted bleach solution

- The simple and most effective way how to remove stains from a rubber bath mat is by soaking it in a solution with diluted bleach. Add one gallon of cold (normal temperature) water to the bathtub. Do not pour bleach directly into the bathtub. DO NOT make a diluted bleach solution with hot water. Hot water may intensify fumes as bleach is added. Make sure that you have enough room to immerse your shower mat.
- As an alternative to bleach, make a solution of 1 cup (240 mL) of white vinegar and 1 cup (240 mL) of water and use it to scrub the mat. Or, fill the tub or basin with equal parts vinegar and water and allow the mat to soak.

Step 4. Use protective gear when handling bleach

Bleach may splash when being poured and can irritate your eyes or skin. Wear protective cleaning gloves before pouring bleach. You may also wish to use goggles to cover your eyes.

Step 5. Let the mat soak, then scrub it

- To eliminate mold or mildew, leave the rubber bath mat in the diluted bleach solution for 3-4 hours.
- To freshen up the bath mat with a quick clean, scrub the rubber bath mat with a cleaning brush or scouring pad to remove dirt and debris after soaking for a few minutes.

Step 6. Dry the bath mat when you're done cleaning

- Remove the bath mat from the bathtub and set to dry on the back of a chair or outdoors in the sun. Drain and rinse the bathtub to remove dirt and scum collected from the cleaning.
- Note: Do not put the bath mat in the dryer as the heat will warp it!

USING WASHING MACHINE

Step 1. Place the rubber bath mat into the washing machine

- Wash the rubber shower mats in your washing machine the same as you would do your regular laundry.
- Note: DO NOT include it with items that do not do well with bleach.

Step 2. Add the washing solution

Add the detergent and ½ cup of bleach to remove the stains and odors. DO NOT use strong alkali or acidic mixtures.

Step 3. Wash the items on the gentle cycle using warm or cold water

Wash 4-5 mins under 30°C water under tender wash. Washing rubber bathmats in a setting for normal or bulky may weaken or damage the material over time. You can use warm or cold water.

Step 3. Remove the mat and allow it to dry

Remove the mat from the machine and hang it at the back of a chair or clothesline to dry.