10 Tips to Spend Less on Household Goods

1. You can reuse plastic bags you get from the grocery store. You can even reuse the ones inside cereal boxes. Don’t reuse bags from any kind of meat.

2. Make soap, shampoo, and toothpaste last longer. For example, you only need a squeeze of toothpaste the size of a pea.

3. Try using less detergent in your washing machine and dishwasher.

4. You can use white distilled vinegar or baking soda for many household cleaning jobs. Read the labels for ideas.

5. When you buy new or used clothes, read the labels to see if they can be washed. Don’t buy clothes that must be dry cleaned.

6. Spend about $20 on a battery recharger. Over time, replace your used batteries with the kind you can use over and over again.

7. Wash and repair your clothes instead of buying new ones.

8. Pamper yourself at home. Do your own hair and nails. Buy a pair of hair-cutting scissors, and cut your children’s hair yourself. Look for videos at the library that can teach you how.

9. Use a dishcloth to clean up around the kitchen instead of paper towels. Be sure to wash the dishcloth in hot soapy water after you use it.

10. If you use paper towels, tear them in half for small jobs.

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