



# How to clean your laptop's screen, case, and keyboard

All computers require cleaning, and laptops require more cleaning than desktops.

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# INTRODUCTION

## WIPE DOWN THE CASE

For maintaining your laptop case you will need a household sponge, dishwashing detergent, water, lint-free cloth, and cotton swabs. Gather them together and follow these steps:

- Turn off the laptop.
- Unplug the laptop.
- Remember electrical current and liquid really don't mix.
- Mix the cleaning liquid.
- One part dishwashing detergent with five parts water.
- Soak the sponge in the cleaning liquid.
- Wring out the sponge until it's dry.
- Gently wipe down the laptop's case.
- The laptop case is the *outside*. We'll get to the keyboard and screen later. You *can* use the sponge and swabs to clean the touch pad though.
- Use the swab to get the nooks and crannies.
- You can use the standard Q-tip, but medical swabs are better made and wrapped a little tighter. Medical swabs can be found at any pharmacy.
- Do not insert the swab into any ports, jacks, or holes on the laptop.
- Finish the job by wiping the case again with the lint-free cloth.
- Use the cloth to sop up any excess moisture.
- Never spill any liquid inside the laptop!
- Isopropyl, or "rubbing," alcohol makes a good cleaning liquid. *Do not* use it to clean the monitor

- Avoid using any detergent that contains strong chemicals, such as ammonia or bleach.
  - WASH THE SCREEN
  - **Use a lint-free cloth to dry-clean the screen.** All laptops use LCD monitors. These monitors are *very* fussy about liquids. A lint-free cloth gets the dust off and removes finger smudges.
  - **Use a damp sponge to wipe the screen.** Use only water to make the sponge damp. Wring out *all* the moisture from the sponge before you wipe the screen. Rub gently, lovingly.
  - **Get an LCD monitor cleaning kit.** By getting a cleaning kit, perhaps the best option, you receive a lint-free cloth as well as a package containing a damp towelette moistened with the official LCD monitor-cleaning solution.
  - Turn off and unplug the laptop, before cleaning the monitor. After the screen is clean, let it dry before you close the lid or use the laptop again.
    - Never use alcohol or ammonia cleaners on an LCD screen. They can damage the LCD display so that the image becomes unreadable. Further, if you have a Tablet PC, the screen's ability to detect input is greatly diminished by the use of harsh chemicals.

## Step 1 — How to clean your laptop's screen, case, and keyboard



- Insert wisdom here.

To reassemble your device, follow these instructions in reverse order.