For Dishwashers: Place one cup of white vinegar* in top rack and run through hot cycle to clean and freshen dishwasher. To prevent hard water stains, place one cup of vinegar in top rack and run through normal cycle with dishes.

For Washing Machines: Set temperature to hot and pour 4 cups of vinegar into water as basin fills. Run through normal wash. For front-loading machines, add vinegar to soap dispenser. It's also important to clean the washer inside and out with a natural cleaner and cloth to prevent mold and buildup. Adapted from WikiHow.

*Gallon-sized white vinegar is sold at grocery and warehouse club stores.