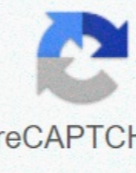


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How to make diaper genie not stink

I would pour baking soda directly into the bottom of the pail, as it may help absorb odors more effectively. I would also expect that a diaper pail will never be perfect. I have a Munchkin diaper pail, and it works pretty well unless you open it. Other odor removers that can be effective include mild acids like vinegar and stronger bases such as lye. Both will actually chemically modify the odor causing chemicals, and both should be strong enough to get into the plastic some. Both are, however, fairly expensive solutions - vinegar in particular you need a lot of at full strength, and you need to really let it soak to do a good job. Lye can probably be used in smaller quantities, but still isn't super cheap. You might consider a non-plastic diaper pail/trash can. Plastic inevitably picks up odors, and keeps it. We also have a metal trash can with a lid, and that seems to behave better than the plastic ones as long as we keep the lid on. It has to be 100% metal, or something will stick odor-wise. I have been on an extended run of diaper duty: SEVEN YEARS (!!) with no end in sight! Four kids under 7, means A LOT of diapers and A LOT of, ahem...smells. I know I am not the only homemaking mama that has tried it all to make sure that when welcoming guests into her home, they are not immediately tipped off to the fact that my day is full of diaper duty. Because, let's be real: DIAPERS STINK! It took me almost 5 full years of diaper duty to discover the real-deal solutions to the diaper stink problem in my home, and I know you are going to want to know this, too! We currently have two little ones in diapers. Ugh... and I have been working on this problem since long before we had our second baby. We discovered some things along the way that helped; but I solved the entire diaper stink problem. First: You are Doing it Wrong!! I was, too! Don't worry, you can fix it! Here are the common STINK situation problems and how to remedy them. Problem #1: You Registered for the WRONG Diaper Pail First of all, and this is the most important thing I am going to tell you - you may have purchased/registered for the WRONG diaper pail. I haven't looked up to find out which diaper pail is the most popular, but I would take a guess that it's the Diaper Genie. I mean, it is all in the name, right? BUT, the Diaper Genie is a stink factory - literally. We had one for the first baby and part of two babies in diapers (the first time around) and we just assumed that diaper pails in general make your house smell like a baby waste factory. BUT it's not the fact that you have a diaper pail, it is the fact that you have a Diaper Genie. So, which diaper pail should you buy/register for instead? Solution #1: The RIGHT Diaper Pail The Arm & Hammer Munchkin Diaper Pail - it's rated #1 in Odor Control (in laboratory tests). And the myriad the experiments done in our own "laboratory" confirm their conclusions. This is THE diaper pail to help control diaper stink in your home. What's different about the Munchkin, that makes it better, is the construction of the pail itself, and the bags that go in it. The pail is made to twist "closed" at the top each time the lid is closed on the pail. It also has a set of flaps to help keep the bag cinched while the lid is down. This effectively closes off the source of the stink. You only smell the diapers in the pail upon opening and closing the lid. The Diaper Genie is not designed this way. When it is closed, there is still a wide gap at the top of the bag inside, allowing straight-up stinky stinks to escape through the lid. Problem #2: You are using the WRONG bags If you are a victim of problem #1, you are a victim of problem #2. Sorry to tell you, the diaper disposal bags in the Diaper Genie are terrible!! Not only are you required to make your own bags through a strange process of cutting, lying, and resetting (something we all have time for with little ones, right?); they are not great quality bags. I can literally smell right through them - YUCK!! Solution #2: The RIGHT bags The Arm & Hammer Munchkin pail uses a completely different type of diaper disposal bag. First of all they are officially a "bag" - not the cut and tie method with the Diaper Genie. They are also easier to use because they have a locking system at the top. The bags themselves are also thicker than the bags that come with the Diaper Genie. When the diaper pail is full, the resistance to close the pail increases because there is not ample room to twist the bag again when it closes. To take out the diaper disposal bag, you simply click the bag closed, push it through to the bottom, and remove. NOTE: a few years ago (we have been changing diapers ever SO long), Diaper Genie and Arm & Hammer decided together and put the full force of their marketing prowess behind the Diaper Genie's bags - I am telling you it is all in the name. BUT you can STILL get a Munchkin Diaper pail and the refill bags. You just have to know what you are looking for. The ones you want say Snap, Seal, and Toss. For a minute there, the bags were crazy hard to find. But I think the Arm & Hammer people know what's up with diaper stink and they quietly have started making the refill bags more widely available. Also, there is a diaper pail on the market that merges the two diaper pails into one. It is the Munchkin Step pail. It can use both types of bags: the snap and seal and the cut and tie versions. If you are interested in trying out the different bags to see what I am talking about. I, for my part, am sticking with what I know. There are some other reasons your house smells of diapers. The pail and the bags are only part of the problem! And even the right diaper pail and bags can only help so much. Once you have the right stuff, I have some tips for how to use your Munchkin Diaper pail to maximize the stink-reduction in your home. Use baking soda often The Munchkin works so well because it utilizes one of the most natural odor-reducing products available - baking soda. The Munchkin pail has a reservoir for baking soda that sits in the lid. Every time you open and close the lid, a small amount of baking soda is released into the bin, which helps to neutralize odors quickly. In order for the baking soda to do its best work, you should change out the reservoir at least once a month. AND in between reservoir refills, I recommend that each time you change out the bag, you sprinkle a little baking soda into the bag before you put any diapers in it. Clean the diaper pail seasonally I am not sure how often you clean the garbage cans in your home. I tend to do it quarterly. When you clean the garbage cans, clean the diaper pail. If you do it seasonally, it makes it easy to remember when you did it last. A good cleaning includes scrubbing with soap (I really like to use the Dr. Bronner's baby soap) and water. I recommend doing in the bath tub. Make sure you remove the baking soda reservoir before you clean the pail! Use a small brush or an old toothbrush to really get into the nooks and crannies of the pail. Once the diaper pail is clean and the reservoir is freshly packed, you are ready to address the last problem. Problem #3: Scented Stink One of the common misconceptions in homemaking is that air fresheners actually help to freshen the air. But what the commercials don't say is that instead of actually refreshing the air, you end up with stinky-flowery smells instead of just stinky smells. You know the commercials that talk about going nose-blind, etc. It is true Solution #3: True Odor Control What you really need, instead of an air freshener, is an air neutralizer. I found one that takes away any residual diaper stink, for real! While shopping the aisles of Target one day a few years ago, I found one. I was super skeptical, so I went home and did some research before buying it. I was so happy when I finally tried Fresh Wave Odor removing packs. They remove the stink inside the pail!! We keep our diaper pails (plural, for the plural kids in diapers) in our babies' rooms and in the laundry room. Typically when the diaper pail is half-way full in our laundry room, there's a certain "smell" greeting us upon entry to our home. I popped one of the Fresh Wave Odor Removing packs into the bottom of our Munchkin last month and I have not smelled a diaper stink upon entering my home since! For those of you with sensitive noses (I have one, too), I seriously, cannot smell the diapers inside my pail! There is a door that locks shut on the Munchkin. With that closed and the Fresh Wave pack in, I am good to go!! Are you currently in the diaper changing season of life, or are you about to be? If so, I highly recommend that you get/register for the Munchkin pail and pick up a pack of the Fresh Wave odor removing packs. Trust me, your nose, and the noses of your guests, who come over to coo over your little one, will thank you! Series Navigation Your house smells like a stinky diaper. You need a diaper pail deodorizer to make that stinky diaper odor go away. Below is a comprehensive list of diaper pail deodorizer ideas that will solve your odor problem. Some ideas are super easy and can solve your problem right away - some are more long term. See which diaper pail deodorizer ideas fit best into your lifestyle. DIY Diaper Pail Deodorizer The following methods are simple diaper odor eliminators. They are great methods that actually work, and they work quickly too. Pick one or more methods that seem doable. Lysol - Spray Lysol (or any disinfectant spray) into your diaper pail whenever you change the bag. Vinegar - Mix equal parts white vinegar and water in a spray bottle. Keep it close to your diaper pail, and spray it into the bottom of the pail every time you empty the bag. (Distilled white vinegar is a safe and natural diaper pail deodorizer.) Baking Soda - Sprinkle a little baking soda into your diaper pail every time you change the bag. One handy tip is to pour your baking soda into a big glass shaker - the kind of big holes. It will make sprinkling the baking soda much easier. Image Credit: lillbumsclotdiapers.com Drier Sheets - Add a drier sheet between the diaper bag and the diaper pail. Drier sheets smell good and they're very cost-effective as a diaper pail odor eliminator; Coffee Grounds - They are really effective at getting rid of odors. Throw used or new coffee grounds into the bottom of your diaper pail, and let it stand for a few hours or overnight before rinsing it out. Used Coffee Grounds In A Filter - Throw old coffee grounds into a clean coffee filter, tie it up and place it at the bottom of your diaper pail. Place your new plastic bag over it. Cloves - Throw a few whole cloves into the bottom of your pail. This is a really quick and simple diaper pail deodorizer idea. Fresh Lemons - Cut a lemon in half and put it in a small bowl of water - cut side up. Place the bowl in your nursery to freshen the room. Lemon Skin - Scrape out the inside of a used lemon that has been cut in half. Fill it with salt, and place it at the bottom of the diaper pail. Replace it with another half lemon every time you take out a full bag. Keep in mind that fruits and vegetables are biodegradable so the lemon itself will become yucky, and therefore needs to be replaced regularly. Kitty Litter - pour a little kitty litter into an old sock, and tie it up like a ball. Toss it into the bottom of the diaper pail. Replace it with a new pouch when it is no longer effective. Sunshine - Put your diaper pail out in the sun. The ultraviolet rays of the sun will kill built-up bacteria and mold. The sun will also dry out locked in moisture. This is a favorite diaper pail deodorizer-for many moms - and it's free. Air It Out - Open the windows and let it flow through the room after you have emptied out the diaper pail. Fresh air is an excellent air freshener. Essential Oils - Mix a few drops of your favorite essential oils into a spray bottle with water. Spray it in the air, and then do so again 2-3 hours later. Long Term Solutions To Your Diaper Pail Odor Limit the number of diapers in the pail - Don't fill the bag all the way to the top. Try to get into the habit of changing the bag every 2-3 days. If you change the bag every 8-12 diapers, there won't be much time for the stinky diapers to live in the pail, thereby reducing the stench. The longer they sit, the stinkier they will get. Toss Poopy Diapers Outside - If you're using disposable diapers, throw poopy diapers in a plastic grocery bag, tie it shut (to contain the smell), and throw it into your outside bin. This way, you won't really need a diaper pail air freshener because the poop will never stay in your house. Use Pet Waste Bags For Poop Diapers - If you've tried grocery bags but they make your garage smell, consider using dog waste bags. They are strong and are made for the purpose of holding poops, so they are more effective than grocery bags, or Use Odor-Blocking Trash Bags - Odor-blocking trash bags are very effective at containing the stench. Throw Poop Into The Toilet - If you cannot be bothered with odor-blocking bags or dog waste bags, consider dumping your baby's poop straight into the toilet before you toss the diaper. Baking Soda + Essential Oils - Pour 2-3 tablespoons of baking soda into a coffee filter. Add a few drops of your favorite essential oils. Create a pouch by tying it up with a twisty tie, ribbon, dental floss or elastic band. Throw it into the bottom of your diaper pail - in between your bag and the diaper pail. Once the stink returns, replace it with another pouch. Image Credit: Huffingtonpost.com Change Your Baby In One Room Only - By changing your baby in one room only, you are limiting the potential odors to only one room. Tightly Tie The Diaper Pail Bag - When you take the diaper pail bag out of your house, you're probably taking it to the garage. This is where it will live until garbage day. So, you're basically just moving the stench from one part of your house to another. One way of reducing the odor in your garage is by ensuring that you tie that diaper pail bag as best as you can. This helps to contain the smell. Wash Diaper Pail With Bleach - By washing your diaper pail frequently with soap and bleach, you get rid of any of bacteria that develop in there. Change Disposable Diaper Brands - There is no science behind this but many moms swear by this method. They say to just switch diaper brands every few months. This seems to help reduce the odor. Try Bamboo Charcoal - Bamboo charcoal is an effective diaper pail deodorizer. They eliminate diaper pail odors by absorbing the odors, not masking it. Diffuse Essential Oils - Diffusing essential oils like Bergamot, Grapefruit, Lemon, Lemongrass, Lime, Mandarin, Orange, Sage, Tangerine, and Lavender are great at reducing stale and musty odors. All you need is a diffuser and a few drops of your favorite essential oils. Salt - Simple salt is a very effective odor neutralizer. Throw half a cup of salt into your diaper pail and have it sit for a while before rinsing it out. Some moms leave the salt in there and replace it when the stink returns. Eucalyptus - Saturate a cotton ball in eucalyptus. Eucalyptus oil is anti-bacterial and anti-fungal. It is effectively used to deodorize diaper pails. DIY Deodorizer Disks - Deodorizer disks are made out of a combination of effective odor eliminators. They're really simple to make. Create a thick paste out of baking soda, distilled or boiled water, a few drops of your favorite essential oils (or use Bergamot, Grapefruit, Lemon, Lemongrass, Lime, Mandarin, Orange, Sage, Tangerine, and Lavender). Press them into muffin cups and a muffin tin, and let it stand for at least 24 hours to set and dry. Once dried, remove the muffin cup liners and place a disk at the bottom of your diaper pail (between the pail and the bag). Use one disk in your diaper pail at a time. Image Credit: Lillbumsclotdiapers.com Deodorizer Disks With Epsom Salts - Epsom salts are known to reduce bacteria, which is why many moms like to add it to their deodorizer disks. The ratio would be 1 cup of baking soda to 3/4 of a cup of Epsom salts, distilled or boiled water, and a few drops of your favorite essential oils. It is the same directions as above but the Epsom salts give it that extra kick as an odor neutralizer. Vanilla Extracts - Saturate a cotton ball with vanilla extract and place it at the bottom of your diaper pail - under the bag. To try to enhance the smell, you could have one saturated cotton ball in the bottom of the pail, and another on the table right next to the pail. This method is easy, yet effective. how to make diaper genie not smell. how to keep diaper genie from smelling

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