

How to Clean Vape Coils with Vinegar, Alcohol, and More

Any product that comes in contact with a sticky substance like e juice is going to require some cleaning, so knowing **how to clean vape coils** effectively is a very important skill. It's not hard to clean, but it does require a few steps. Depending on how often you use your vape, a given coil will typically last between one and two weeks. However, e liquids leave a thin film of gunk that can build up in your tank and around the coil and wick.

Over time, this can kill a coil a lot faster than expected, resulting in unnecessary spending on replacement coils. This residue can even leave a burning aftertaste in even the most high-end flavors. As such, it's crucial to perform regular maintenance, including **cleaning your vape** device.

Why Clean Your Vape Tank and Coils

One of the most straightforward answers is hygiene. You're dealing with a product that comes into contact with your mouth, so cleaning it will prevent any germs from lingering. But there are numerous answers to why you should regularly **clean your vape** tank, from budgetary reasons to optimization to ensuring your enjoyment is as long-lasting as possible. We know this residue impacts the flavor, adding an unwanted dry burn taste, but did you know the type of e liquid also plays an important role?

The darker the e liquid, the more annoying it can be to clean. Darker flavors are notorious for rapidly gunking up a coil, and that can lead to performance issues with your vape pen or tank down the line. That said, even lighter flavors will eventually leave a residue.

No matter what kind of e juice you're using, if you don't **clean a vape tank** before you switch flavors, the old flavor will affect the new one. This is particularly true when switching from lighter, fruitier flavors to stronger ones such as menthol.

As you come to know your vaping habits better, you should be able to tell intuitively when it's time for a cleaning. If you let things get bad, it will not only be a waste of money, but it'll no doubt reduce the quality of your overall experience.

How Do You Remove Gunk from a Coil?

The first step in cleaning your tank and coils is taking apart the components so they can be individually cleaned. While it doesn't necessarily seem important at first, you're really going to want to clean each part of your product separately.

First, unscrew the glass and top components like your drip tip and top gasket. You may need to unlatch the top rather than unscrew, depending on the model. Once you've separated everything, you should have your base, top, glass or pyrex tube, and coil set aside.

The glass or pyrex in your vape tank is held by rubber or silicone oval seals that create a vacuum. When cleaning, take care that these don't get lost or misplaced, as they're crucial in preventing leakage. Bear in mind, though, that cleaning doesn't necessarily require that you remove these seals. Just make sure they don't fall off if you're using a blow dryer or warm water.

If your tank is relatively clean, water should work well enough. It's important to rinse with distilled water if possible since it won't leave any residue once it evaporates. While warm water is the lightest, simplest way to clean your vape device, it's not always strong enough.

Start by filling a glass or bowl with hot water, but not boiling. Then place all components in the bowl. Leave them in the water until it is room temperature.

Take each component out and, under a fast running tap, use a pipe cleaner or toothbrush to scrub any more stubborn residue visible. Then be sure to do a final rinse in distilled water if available. You can let the various pieces air dry, but hand drying won't do any damage.

Before reassembling your vape, take bits of a paper towel and dry each component, running a bunched up portion through the tube. You can also use a blow dryer to speed up the process, though, as previously mentioned, you may risk losing an O-ring.

But if you require more than just a simple heat and rinse job, you may want to try a deeper clean using stronger products.

Can You Clean a Burnt Coil?

Cleaning e liquid vape tanks typically just involves mild scrubbing, but a vape coil is another story. Coils come in two forms, and the processes involved in cleaning each coil are vastly different. Replaceable vape coil heads generally come as metal tubes containing wicking material.

Other users may prefer rebuildable coils, which require using tools to craft and install new metal coils alongside the e liquid wick. All e liquid coils eventually require replacement, but you can get a few days extra out of a coil if you maintain it properly.

If you do try to clean a replaceable coil, the classic soak and rinse method is advised. However, before doing so, you can check if it's even worth trying by running the coil head under fast warm water for a minute. If the darkness of the wick doesn't begin to lessen, it's likely beyond use.

Rebuildable coils not only can be cleaned, they absolutely should! The gunk built up on a coil can vastly impact the taste of flavor, leaving a burnt taste and lessening the vapor production. Properly cleaning a rebuildable coil will have it working as good as new if the appropriate steps are followed.

First, remove the old e liquid wick from the coil. With just a few pulses of the fire button, the remaining residue should be clear, and you're ready to set a new wick. This is known as a dry burn, and it should work the first few times.

After a while, however, you will have to do a deeper cleaning. With the wicks and coils separated, remove the atomizer from the mod. Then run it under warm water. With a toothbrush or a coil cleaning tool, scrub it lightly before rinsing it once again. After all that work, if you're still finding gunk in your coil or you notice vapor production weakens, then it's time just to rebuild a new set of coils.

The Ultrasonic Cleaner

If you're really looking for top of the line cleaning products for your vape device and don't mind dropping some additional coin, you must invest in an ultrasonic cleaner. Usually reserved for jewelry or precious metals, vapers have since embraced this high-tech method as the premier way to clean your atomizer.

Using the ultrasonic cleaner may sound high-tech, but it's nothing more than filling the tank with water and letting the device run until all your components are sparkling again.

The PG Rinse

Instead of water, you can soak your components in propylene glycol. The process is the same. Let the parts of your tank and coil sit in room temperature propylene glycol for an hour or two. However, do not use vegetable glycol, as it's a much thicker liquid that will make your tank even harder to clean.

Cleaning Vape Coils with Vinegar

For better results, simple, household items like vinegar may become necessary. This highly acidic product is sure to remove stubborn residue. Some vapers like to use water with a bit of lemon juice or dish soap instead. No matter which you choose, you must rinse it out with distilled water thoroughly afterward. There's a reason e liquid isn't offered in vinegar, and it's not a lack of imagination.

Cleaning Vape Coils with Alcohol

Cheap vodka may not be an item in every household, but it's not hard to get a hold of a cheap bottle at the grocery store. This is probably the most potent product to combat stubborn e juice residue. Simply dampen a paper towel with unflavored vodka, apply, and brush the affected areas until clean. Make sure to rinse with water to get rid of any unwanted flavor and distilled water afterward to avoid any mineral residue.

Conclusion

Vaping is a thoroughly enjoyable experience, and cleaning your coils regularly will only prolong your enjoyment. Like anything that comes in contact with your mouth, the germs and bacteria is naturally a concern, so cleaning it should be a priority. No one wants that added concern hanging over their heads when they're trying to relax.

Moreover, the build-up of some flavors can impede your vaporizer's performance and eventually lead to you spending more money on replacement parts than necessary. It only makes sense to maintain your vaporizer with the utmost care.

When you're dealing with a product that contains nicotine, the less worry in your mind will clear room for that perfect cloud of vapor you want to exhale. Knowing how to clean vape coils will keep your vape pen or mod in perfect working order for as long as possible.