

Make Your Own Reusable & Washable 'Swifter' Replacements

"He who does not economize will have to agonize"
Confucius



I don't know about the rest of you but my town charges us by weight for our trash pickup. I also just hate having to keep using and tossing when I dust or mop, even though I love the convenience of not having to drag out a big mop and bucket or duster. Not only that, but thinking ahead to when I complete my move to the country, where there is NO weekly trash pick-up – well you can see my dilemma. My solution was to make my own 'Swifter' replacements that I can reuse and wash, instead of use and toss. There are tons of patterns to choose from out there (see the end of this article for some links).



Electronic Micro Fiber Cleaning Cloths



Sham-Wow Absorbent Cloths

Micro fiber cloth that is often used for electronic equipment, is my duster cloth of choice, they work the best and are super durable; 'sham-Wow' type cloth is my "wet swifter" and washable mop heads is preference. I usually purchase my micro fiber and 'Sham-Wow' type cloths at the dollar store. You can sometimes find the electronic equipment micro fiber cloth at the dollar store too, but usually these are easier to find at places like Walgreens, Rite-Aid, CVS, Eckerd, Target, K-Mart and Wal-Mart.

Micro Fiber 'Swifter' Duster

Materials:

- Microfiber cloth – at least 2 rectangles of cloth 7 ½ x 4 ½ and 2 rectangles of cloth 8" x 5"

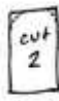
Make Your Own Reusable & Washable 'Swifter' Replacements - Continued

- Pinking Shears
 - Sewing machine & thread
1. Center a small and large rectangle then - Double stitch the middle of the layers of cloth together down the middle. Then zig-zag stitch over this. Do this for each 'set' rectangles.
 2. Put at least 2 'sets' of stitched cloth together, with the larger rectangles to the outside - ie: the larger pieces to the top and bottom, smaller pieces to the center.
 3. Double stitch the middle of the 'sets' of cloth together down the middle. Then zig-zag stitch over this.
 4. 1 1/2 inches from the center seam, on both sides of the center seam, sew another double seam. Just to the outside of these two new seams, zig-zag another seam. These may overlap. This will hold the "prongs" of your Swifter Duster.
 5. Use pinking shears to cut strips of cloth. Stagger the cuts for each layer of cloth. Be careful NOT to cut your stitching that is for the handle prongs to the duster.

Make Your Own ~ reusable ~ SWIFFER DUSTERS

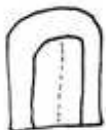


8 x 8
inch pieces



4 x 6
inch pieces

(you can curve
off the corners)



Sew one small
piece to each
large piece

Stack them with the
small pieces
on the outside



push the small pieces
to one side and
sew the large
pieces together
around the center
with a 1/4 x 6 inch slot



Slide the
holder inside
and snip
all around
the edges.



Voila!
have fun cleaning.

www.littledeartracks.blogspot.com

You now have a washable, reusable swifter duster and no longer have to keep purchasing and throwing out the disposable dusters.

For the Floor 'Swifter' Duster

Materials:

- Microfiber cloth – enough for at least 2 8 ½ x 11 ½ cloths
- Pinking Shears
- Sewing machine & thread

1. Use the pinking shears to cut as many 8 ½ x 11 ½ micro fiber cloths as you feel you may need.
2. Optional: Zig-zag stitch ½ inside the entire outer edge to prevent fraying.

These are your floor washable, reusable floor swifter cloths.

For your Wet 'Swifter'

Materials:

- Sham-wow cloth – enough for at least two 8 ½ x 11 ½ cloths
- Pinking Shears
- Sewing machine & thread

1. Use the pinking shears to cut as many 8 ½ x 11 ½ 'Sham-wow' cloths as you feel you may need.
2. Optional: Zig-zag stitch ½ inside the entire outer edge to prevent fraying.

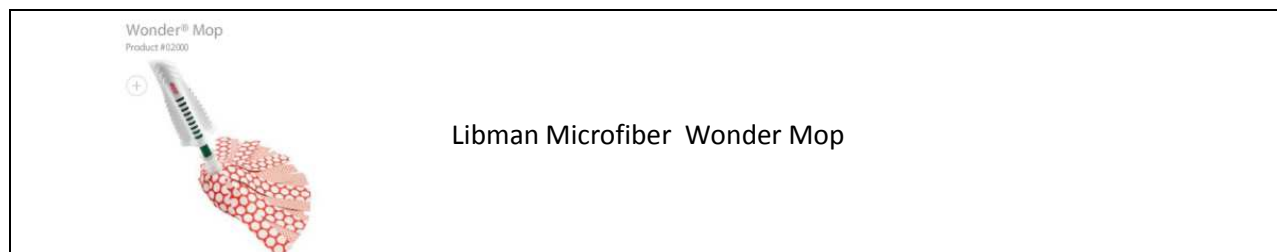
Use these for your washable, reusable wet swifter floor cloths.

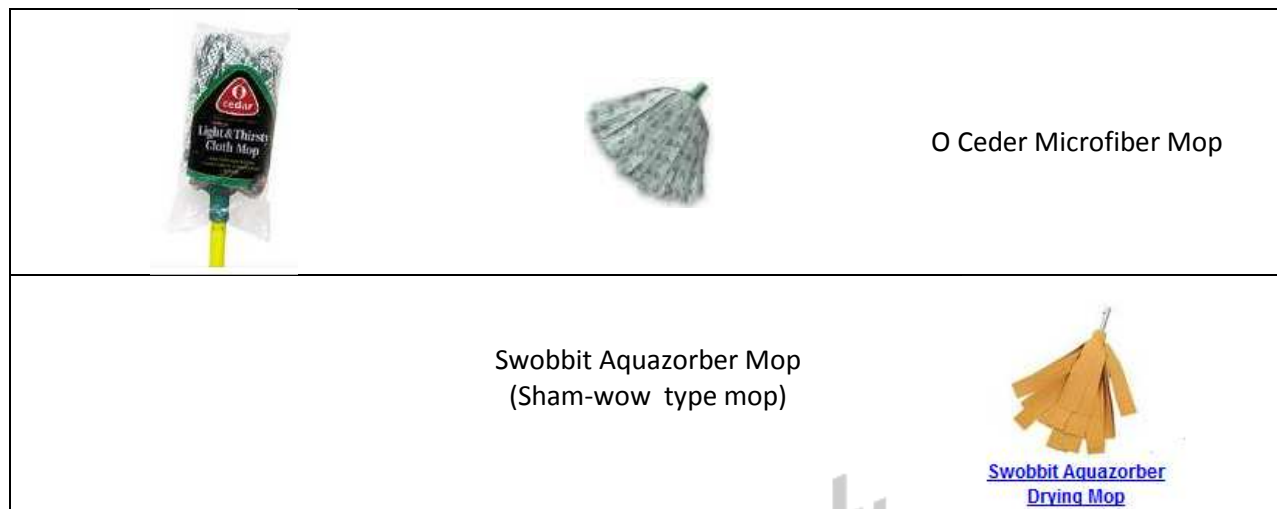
"A person that has never made a mistake has never tried anything new."

Albert Einstein

For Floor Mops

Utilize a mop that has a washable, reusable mop head. They are made out of micro fiber or a material very similar to a Sham-wow.





Resources

Tutorial: Reusable Swiffer Duster Cloths <http://www.sew-much-ado.com/2010/02/tutorial-reusable-swiffer-duster-cloths.html>

Washable "Swiffer" Dusters, Make Your Own <http://thepeacefulmom.com/2011/11/02/make-your-own-washable-swiffer-dusters/>

Homemade Sweeper and Duster Covers <http://www.saving4six.com/2012/01/homemade-swiffer-sweeper-and-duster.html>

Tutorial: Reusable Swiffer Sweeper <http://www.sew-much-ado.com/2010/03/tutorial-reusable-swiffer-sweeper.html>

Make Reusable Swiffer Covers <http://dollarstorecrafts.com/2009/04/make-reusable-swiffer-covers/>

Swiffer Sweeper Reusable Pad Tutorial <http://craftycapable.blogspot.com/2012/05/swiffer-sweeper-reusable-pad-tutorial.html>

*"Condemnation without investigation is the height of ignorance."
Albert Einstein*