



Using vinegar high in acetic acid (20% vinegar) to kill weeds

Vinegar is a non-selective herbicide, meaning it will kill any plant it comes into contact with, so apply it *only* to the weeds you want to eliminate. Use with caution, especially near flower beds and vegetable gardens.

- **Protect yourself:** Vinegar can be harmful to the skin and eyes, so wear protective clothing, gloves, and safety goggles before handling it.
- Purchase 20% vinegar: [You can find 20% vinegar at garden supply stores or online.](#) It is considerably stronger than the regular vinegar found in supermarkets.
- **Choose the right time:** The best time to apply vinegar as a weed killer is on a sunny day when there is little to no wind. Avoid applying it when rain is expected within the next 24 hours.
- **Prepare a spray bottle:** Fill a spray bottle with 20% vinegar.
- **Target the weeds:** *Carefully* spray or slowly pour the vinegar onto the weeds you want to eliminate. Be careful not to spray or pour the vinegar on desirable plants as it can damage them too.
- **Ensure good coverage:** Make sure the vinegar thoroughly covers the leaves and stems of the weeds. The acetic acid in the vinegar will kill the foliage, making it easier for the weeds to die off.
- **Repeat:** Vinegar may not be as effective as chemical herbicides, so you may need to repeat the application multiple times to completely kill the weeds. Monitor the treated area and reapply vinegar as needed.
- **Dispose of the weeds:** Once the weeds have died, remove them from the area. This will help prevent any reseeding or regrowth.