

Part Preparation and Cleaning

Solvent based cleaning - Acetone and Alcohol

Degreaser based cleaning -

Rich Osman - I've had good luck with Zep purple degreaser (purple for petroleum, orange for organic fats) from Home Depot. Not as much trouble as solvents and seems every bit as effective. I usually wash with Dawn dish washing detergent first, though.

Randy Lisbona - I use purple and orange degreaser at home, learned that purple will take anodizing off aluminum bike parts. I don't know if it was brand specific or the coating on the parts but to be safe I only use orange on aluminum parts.

Purple is for greasy chains, I use hot wax on my bike chains now so to clean them and remove wax you just boil a few minutes.