



Cut Your Cleaning Time!

1. Do not clean things that are not dirty. For example, vertical surfaces do not get dirty as fast as horizontal surfaces. So when you clean the front of the refrigerator, just clean what's dirty and remember to clean the sides too. Maybe you can do that once a year, but not every time. You can clean a door without cleaning the whole thing. Just clean the spots. When you are cleaning the kitchen cabinets do not clean the whole cabinet, just clean the fingerprints.
2. Cover your household entrance with a mat, so that people can wipe their feet off before they come into the house. You will be surprised how your floors will stay clean.
3. Carry all your cleaning supplies in a Totally Organized Cleaning Caddy, which is big in size and has deep pockets, so that your cleaning stuff does not tip over. Keep all your supplies in one area, in a closet or under the kitchen sink. When you start to clean a room, start by the door and work your way around the room until you get back to where you started. Use an extension cord 50 feet long to plug your vacuum cleaner in, so that you're not plugging and unplugging in each room. Always keep a spray bottle of all purpose cleaner under the bathroom counter and kitchen counter for quick wipe ups.
4. Use both hands when cleaning. One to spray and the other to wipe. Use the Totally Organized Cleaning Apron when you are cleaning. Put on your cleaning apron, load it up with dust cloths, brushes, spray bottles and other tools, and you will clean more efficiently than ever before. No more backtracking, losing track of items, or wasting time.
5. Don't rinse it until it's clean. Allow the cleaner to work. Don't stop scrubbing until all the dirt is loose. Baking soda can remove burned-on foods overnight. A soak in ammonia can remove grease from oven racks.
6. Clean from top to bottom. You don't want dirt falling down on the area you have cleaned already. Example: If you clean the kitchen counter tops first, then clean the cabinet. The cleaner and dirt will fall back onto the counter tops and you will just have to wipe them again.
7. Vacuum often. When dirt has a chance to sit around it will work its way into carpets, upholstery and so on. Get a good vacuum cleaner with attachments, the canister kind. Vacuum carpets, floors and upholstery on a weekly basis.



9. Sometimes we just don't know when to stop, do we? Wiping a surface ten times is not necessary. Spray it and wipe it clean then go on to the next area. If it does not come clean, then get a better cleaner or a tool. Try a white nylon sponge scrubber. If just whipping it does not work, use something that will.

10. Stop Ironing. When you can, take your clothes out of the dryer and hang them up immediately.

11. Always use the best cleaning products and tools. Wear your apron, concentrate, don't get side tracked, and work at a moderate pace.

How To Clean A Stainless Steel Sink

Stainless steel is made of iron and chromium. The best way to keep a stainless steel sink clean is to wipe it out after every use. That will keep the water spots away. You should also clean it on regular basis with a good Grease Cutting Multi-Purpose Cleaner. Use a nylon sponge pad and some dishwashing liquid for daily cleaning. Pour a dime size circle on the sponge part and run warm water into the sink. Wet the sponge and wash the inside of it. After your done rinse all the soap down the drain. If you have water spots use a little bit of vinegar, rubbing alcohol can do the trick too. To put some shine back into it, use some lemon oil on a clean cloth. Scrub and wipe dry.

Rusty Stainless Steel Sink: Cleansers like Ajax or commit will remove most rust stains. Shake a small amount on a white nylon sponge pad and scrub the stain out. If that does not work try using a rust stain remover product like CLR available at most stores. That should do the trick.

How To Clean A Stove Top

If your stovetop is fairly clean spray it with a Grease Cutting Multi-purpose cleaner and wipe it with a terry cleaning cloth. But if you have gone without cleaning it for a while, that is a different story. If your stove has grease and burnt on food, it is best to use a good grease cutter undiluted. Spray the entire stovetop, except for the electric burners if you have them. Let stand for about 15 minutes. Use a white nylon scrubber with sponge to scrub any hard to clean places. Then wipe clean with a terry cleaning cloth. Depending on how dirty your stove is, you may have to repeat the process again. If you have a glass stove top use a cleaner like Windex. Don't use an all-purpose cleaner since that will make the surface streak. Here is a tip: The way to keep your stovetop clean and looking new is to wipe it frequently. That means after every use or when you spill something on it.



How To Clean Most Exhaust Filters

Most exhaust filters like the ones above your stove can be removed and cleaned. Remove the filter and take it over to the sink. Spray it heavily with a Grease Cutting Multi Purpose Cleaner. After you have saturated it with the cleaner, let it soak in the sink with your regular dish washing liquid for about 30 minutes. It should come out just like new.

How To Clean A Refrigerator

Clean refrigerator compartment regularly, even though it does not require defrosting. Turn it off and unplug. Remove all food and removable interior parts. Wash with a solution of 1-2 tablespoons baking soda in 1 quart warm water. Rinse and wipe dry. Wash removable glass shelves and plastic parts in warm detergent solution, rinse and wipe dry. Do not put either glass or plastic in hot water; they may crack, especially if cold. Clean door gasket with detergent solution; rinse and dry.

Wash exterior of cabinet with detergent solution; rinse and dry. A creamy appliance wax may be used occasionally to protect painted exterior and make spots easier to wipe off. Wipe up spills in the refrigerator promptly to avoid staining and odors.

Berries, fruits, easily stain several of the plastics used for interior parts of the refrigerator and other colored foods and absorbs and retains odors. So tightly wrap or cover stored foods and remove "old" foods before they spoil.

Freezer – Cleaning - Occasionally clean freezer compartment following the manual instructions provided with your refrigerator (usually this done on an annual basis).

Clean interior during annual defrosting. Remove food and store in cooler chests or boxes insulated with thick sections of newspapers or blankets, or in the refrigerator. Wash inside with warm water solution of mild detergent or baking soda; rinse; wipe dry as possible. Vacuum dust off condenser coils. Turn freezer back on and replace food.

When needed, wipe outside with a damp cloth; if spill will not come off, use detergent solution and rinse off. If exterior is synthetic paint (not porcelain enamel), occasionally apply a creamy white appliance wax to exterior for protection of surface and easier removal of spots.



How To Clean Countertops

It is important to keep countertops clean because you can spread germs to food products. Spills not quickly cleaned up can stain the countertops. To maintain your counter tops, they should be wiped frequently with a good medium cleaner and a terry cleaning cloth. For older countertops that may be stained with coffee, juice or other things, use a bleach solution or a paste made of baking soda and water. What also works well for stains is a white nylon pad. A white pad is a sponge with a white nylon scrubber on one side and a sponge on the other. Take your white pad, wet it with water and put some Ajax cleanser on the white nylon side and scrub those stains away. It is a good idea to wipe up spills immediately before they stain countertop. Also put place mates or a cutting board where spills are most likely to happen.

How To Clean Grease Off Of Tile or Backsplash In Kitchen

While cooking in the kitchen, it is almost unavoidable to get cooking grease on your tile or backsplash. Well here's how you handle that grimy grease. Get out the All-Purpose Cleaner heavy strength, or Grease Cutting Multi Purpose Cleaner if the area is not extremely bad. If it is very greasy, you will need a heavier duty cleaner like Grease Grizzly. Spray the greasy area with your chosen cleaner and let stand for 20 minute or more. It must stay wet with cleaner, so you may have to spray it a couple of times during the 20 minutes. Next you should scrub it with the best suitable tool out of this list: The Scraper Cleaner, nylon white scrubbing pad, Mini Brush, or a heavy-duty brush with stiff bristles. Whichever one of these items works the best that is the one to use. Rinse well and let dry. Now that you have your area nice and clean spray it occasionally with an all-purpose cleaner to clean up spills.

How To Clean a Shower Curtain

Remove the shower curtain and put it into the washing machine. Add laundry detergent and run it through the delicate cycle. If it has mildew or is brown in color, add a little bit of bleach along with the laundry detergent. Be sure to remove it before the spin cycle begins. Take it out of the machine and put it into the dryer for a couple of minutes just to get the wrinkles out. It will still be a little wrinkled when you take it from the dryer. When you hang it back up, gravity just gets all the wrinkles out eventually! Another thing you can do is buy a nice cloth or nylon shower curtain and put a cheap shower curtain liner behind it. When the liner gets dirty wash it or just replace it. You can usually purchase showers curtain liners for under \$5.00 at a discount department store.



OTHER USEFUL TIPS!

Great Wall-Washing Tips

Follow these simple methods for cleaning the walls in your home. Erase marks from walls with an art gum eraser. To make a good wall-washing solution, combine 1 gallon of warm water and 1/2 cup clear ammonia, 1/4 cup white vinegar and 1/4 cup washing soda (found in the laundry additives section of your super-market). Change this solution frequently and you won't have to rinse. Remember, start at the bottom of the wall and work up.

Cleaning Showers

To clean hard water spots and scum off of showers, use undiluted, heated white vinegar. Put it in a spray bottle, spray on and let soak 15 minutes. Using a nylon-covered sponge, apply dry borax and scrub. For really stubborn problems use a dry, soap-filled steel wool pad on a dry shower. Do not allow water to become involved in this process.

Removing Decals From the Bathtub

To do this easily, lay aluminum foil over the decal and heat well with a blow dryer. Start working it up using an old credit card or thin, dull object. Continue to heat and pull until the decal has been removed. To remove the residue, use nail polish remover in a well-ventilated area.

Keeping Drains Running Smoothly

For a great once a month drain cleaner, pour 1/2 cup baking soda into the drain, follow with 1/2 cup white vinegar -- it will foam. Cover and let sit 30 minutes and then flush with cool water.

For stubborn, slow-running drains, pour 1-cup baking soda and 1 cup salt down the drain. Follow this with 2 quarts boiling water. Let sit 30 minutes, and then flush with cool water.

Removing Candle Wax

To remove candle wax from carpet, place ice in a bag and freeze the wax. Chip off all that you can, then lay a plain (without writing) brown paper bag or a blotting paper over the wax. Heat an iron to medium-hot and press over the bag, changing the bag as it absorbs the wax. Do not touch the carpet with the iron.

Once you have removed all the wax you can absorb, clean the area with a Carpet Cleaner Solution. There are several Carpet Cleaners available in the laundry aisle of most supermarkets.



This method can be used on all fabrics that are wet-cleanable, such as upholstery and tablecloths but be sure to read the manufacture's instructions on all solutions you buy before use.

To remove candle wax from wood, heat the wax with a blow-dryer and slide a piece of dull plastic (such as a credit card) under it to "pop" it up. Clean any residue with warm water and dishwashing liquid. Rinse well, then polish.

Removing Rust From Hard Surfaces

To remove rust from countertops and similar surfaces, make a paste of cream of tartar and lemon juice. Apply this paste to the rust spot and allow to sit 15 to 30 minutes. Scrub with a sponge or plastic-covered scrubbing sponge, rinse well and dry.

Removing Grass Stains from Clothing

Most grass stains on washable fabrics can be removed by rubbing your favorite laundry detergent into the stained area and rinsing under a forceful stream of the hottest water you can use for the fabric type. If the stain is stubborn, try rubbing with rubbing alcohol. Don't use alkalis such as ammonia, degreasers or alkaline detergents on grass stains. They interact with the grass and can permanently set the stain.

Removing Chocolate from Clothing

Sponge with cold water and then apply an enzyme pre-soak. Soaking with cold water and meat tenderizer is also effective. Let this paste soak for an hour or so, then flush with a forceful stream of water.

Removing Rust from Clothes

To remove rust from white clothes, apply undiluted lemon juice and lay the clothes in the sun. The rust will disappear like magic! Test in a small area on colored fabrics.

Cleaning Stainless-steel Cutlery

Mix 1/4 cup chlorine bleach, 1/4 cup Calgon Residue Remover and 1 gallon very HOT water in a plastic container or the kitchen sink (Use a non-aluminum container). Immerse stainless-steel cutlery in the solution for 30 minutes, then wash as usual.

WARNING: Do not use this on any metal other than stainless steel. NOT for use on real silver.



Save Money and Make Your Own Cleaners

Bathtub and tile cleaner: Fill a spray bottle half way with vinegar and the rest with water. Spray small areas of the cleaner on your tile and leave on for a few minutes then wipe off with a terry cleaning cloth. If your tile is very dirty use vinegar full strength.

Floor Cleaner: Fill your kitchen sinks half way with water and add one cup of vinegar. Dip a mop in the solution and mop your floors.

All-Purpose cleaner: In a spray bottle add 1/4 cup ammonia, 1/2 cup white vinegar and 3 table spoons baking soda, then fill bottle with water. Happy cleaning.

Glass and Mirror Cleaner: Mix in a 32oz spray bottle 1 tablespoon of dishwashing detergent, 2 cups rubbing alcohol and fill spray bottle with water.

Toilet bowl Cleaner and disinfectant: Pour 1 cup of chlorine bleach into your bowl and let stand for 15 minutes. Scrub with toilet bowl brush and flush. Be careful not to get any bleach on carpets or floor mats. Bleach will discolor them or make light spots on them.

Baking Soda Soft & Scrub: Sprinkle baking soda on the surface you want to clean. Add a little water with a spray bottle and use a brush or sponge to scrub. Then wipe clean.

Furniture Polish: In a spray bottle mix 1 teaspoon of lemon oil, with a cup of mineral oil. Before using always shake well. Spray onto a dusting rag a work into the wood.

Note: Label all your homemade cleaning products and store them as you would cleaning products you bought from a store. This way family members will not mistake them for something else. Go to a discount department store like Army & Navy and buy some containers and spray bottles to hold your home made cleaners.

