



12 Tips for a **Better Home Clean**

Follow a System

Cleaning without a system is like cooking without a recipe – you're often disappointed with the results. When you stick to a system, you're ensuring your cleaning process is efficient, thorough, and consistent. Plus, it's a great way to develop good cleaning habits.

Pay Attention to Products You Use and Where You Use Them

Scratches on your stainless steel? Oily gunk on your kitchen counters? Chances are you're using the wrong products in the wrong places. Not every spray is all purpose, and not every kind of cloth is easy on your surfaces, so be sure to do plenty of research before you dive into your next clean.

Invest in a Vacuum

Whether your house is fully carpeted, or you have wood floors in your apartment, a vacuum is a great way to keep your space clean. Be sure to pick up a model with bare floor attachments or capabilities, as they'll help you get the most bang for your buck.

Put Some Extra Time Into the Bathroom

The bathroom is one of the places in our homes that is easy to let get out of hand. Save time when cleaning by pre-treating your sink with all purpose cleaner while taking care of the shower and toilet. By the time you're done with those, the sink will be ready to wipe clean.

Do One Deep Clean Task Once a Month

Take half a weekend day each month and dig deep into your home and choose a deep cleaning task to tackle. You could wash all the baseboards, clean the ceiling fans, vents, or wash the windows thoroughly. Do this, and it'll make those in-between cleans a much more pleasant experience.

Stock up on Microfiber Cloths

Microfiber cloths help to clean all surfaces from the kitchen to the playroom. They are gentle on every surface and safe to use on stainless steel and precious momentos. Dry cloths will attract dust, hair, and dreaded dust bunnies without the use of chemicals. Purchase microfiber cloths from most big box stores as well as online.





Move Top-to-Bottom and Vacuum Out

Follow the top-to-bottom rule of cleaning every room: As you clean each surface, knock all of the dust and debris onto the floor within the room then vacuum it up after. You'll clean faster if you don't have to worry where the dust goes, and as long as you have a good vacuum, it'll cut your cleaning time in half.

Make Your Home Smell Clean

Freshen your carpet and cloth couches with essential oils and baking soda. The mix can be sprinkled over the area and then vacuumed up. We use lavender essential oils in our mixes. It creates a clean, fresh, and calming smell which is not overpowering to anyone.

Washing Floors with Dawn Dish Soap

The best way to wash your floors is with a simple mixture of Dawn Dish Soap and warm water. Mix one drop of Dawn Dish Soap to eight ounces of warm water and wet your towel in the solution. Get down on your hands and knees and use the wet terry cloth towel to wash the floor then, with the other hand, dry up as you move along. Think of the Karate Kid: wash on, wash off.

Use a Squeegee to Clean Windows and Mirrors

Take a few drops of Dawn Dish Soap with warm water and wet a microfiber cloth. Wash the surface with the soapy cloth and then wipe clean with the squeegee horizontally. This method can be used to clean mirrors, windows, and shower glass doors.

Cleaning Hard Water Stains

The Works toilet bowl cleaner can be used to remove hard water stains on shower glass. This is a powerful cleaning agent with a strong pungent smell, so be sure to open windows or vent the area. Rinse with water and wash the glass as you would a mirror.
Warning: This will damage chrome fixtures in showers and faucets, so be selective.

When All Else Fails, Hire a Cleaning Company

Cleaning is neither the easiest thing in the world, nor the most fun, and many times your time and energy can be better spent elsewhere. Hiring a professional home cleaner is great way to reduce stress, give you peace of mind, and ensure that you come home every week to a place that's clean and tidy.





Create a Cleaning Kit for Your Home

This simple list is a great starting point to create your own home cleaning kit.

Essentials:

- Blue Dawn Dish Soap
- White Vinegar
- Toilet Bowl Cleaner
- Cleaning Gloves
- All Purpose Cleaner
- Terry Cloth Towels
- Microfiber Towels
- A Squeegee
- Bona Mop

Extras:

- Bar Keepers Friend
- The Works (hard water stain removal)
- Soft Scrub (kitchen appliances / kitchen sink)
- Murphy's Oil Soap (wood furniture, cabinets, and floors)

