

Keeping your Home Clean and Pest-free



Image credit: Jayne Windham

Where does the mess come from?

- Food: cooking and eating
- Pets: food & hair
- Pests
- Dust from outside
- People!
 - How do people add to this?

Where to Start: Remove Clutter First

- Put things back where they belong
 - Clothes in bedrooms
 - Dishes in kitchen
- Wash what's dirty
- Fold, bag, hang, store
- Get rid of what you don't use or need!
 - Sell
 - Donate
 - Give away



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Let's start in the kitchen

- Begin up high, work your way down
- Walls & windows
- Stove, sink, fridge
- Countertop, tables & chairs
- Inside cabinets & drawers
- Floor

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Cleaning Windows

- Move aside any clutter or window covers
- Wipe down sill & frame to remove dust
- Spray 1 window at a time with cleaner, wipe with soft cloth
- Dry with micro-fiber cloth



What to use?

Almost anything is better than nothing, but...

- Unscented soap or detergent is best:
 - Scents can interfere with pest control
 - If you cover odors, how will you know when it's clean?
- Mix your own:
Combine equal parts water & white vinegar in a spray bottle



Image credits: Jayne Windham



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Dishes, Pots & Utensils:

- Clear food
 - Store leftovers in covered containers
 - Scrape garbage
- Rinse
- Wash immediately or put in dishwasher



Image credits: Jayne Windham

Countertops:

- Move everything aside or put it away!
- Wipe up spills, crumbs & dust
- Dry



Image credit: Healthy Housing Solutions, Inc.

Appliances: Stove & Oven

Stove Top & Oven

- Wipe after each use
- Avoid harsh cleaners
- See manufacturer instructions for detailed cleaning
- Ask building maintenance for help



Recycling & Trash

- Don't keep cardboard or paper bags
- Rinse & recycle food & drink containers
- Garbage in separate bag – empty daily
- Trash in covered container (tight lid)
- Remember to wash inside the trash can



Image credits: Jayne Windham

Cabinets & Pantry

- Move everything!
- Look under the sink
- Vacuum or dust
- Organize contents
- Food in covered containers
 - Zipper bags
 - Snap covers



Image credits: Jayne Windham

Furniture

- Move everything!
 - Clutter from tops
- Dust with soft cloth
 - Microfiber, old T-shirt, microfiber cloth or paper towel
 - Damp dust when possible
- Fold contents of drawers



Image credit: Jayne Windham

Floors

- Vacuum: If carpet, use beater bar
- HEPA filtration is best
- Sweep
- Mop
- Dry
- Report rips or tears



Image credit: Wikihow.com



Image credit: Jayne Windham

Keep dirt off of the floor



Tray under pet food makes cleanup easier



Entry mats keep dirt out

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Bathrooms

- Keep them dry
 - Clean
 - Mold-free
 - Pest-free
- Use a squeegee, sponge or towel to wipe down walls



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Bathroom (continued)

- Spray sink, shower & toilet with cleaner
 - Make sure to clean under the seat!
- Wipe with paper towel, rag or sponge
- Brush inside toilet
- Check under sink for leaks or spills
 - Report any leaks
- Empty wastebaskets



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What do we need? It doesn't have to cost a lot...

- Sponge, dish towel, microfiber cloth
- Zipper bags, food containers
- Trash bag, plastic grocery bag,
- Cleaners
- Mop & bucket
- Broom & dustpan
- Vacuum
- Cobweb duster
- Toilet brush
- Trash bin
- Squeegee



Now that you're all cleaned up: Suggested "House Rules"

- Food and drink at table only
- Shoes off upon entering
- Wet towels hung up to dry
- Dirty clothes in laundry basket
- What else will help you?

