

The "Mother-of-All" Spring Cleaning Checklists



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Start Big and at the Top

- Tidy up the attic and check for any roof leaks.
- Clean ceiling light fixtures and chandeliers.
- Dust or vacuum ceiling fans.
- Clean window coverings, blinds and draperies. Be sure to check labels for special instructions.
- Clean behind and under the washer, dryer and other large appliances.
- Dust behind and under large pieces of furniture and other hard to reach places.
- Dust the computer, printer and electronic areas.
- Sweep out and vacuum the fireplace. Have the fireplace inspected by a professional.
- Remove all upholstery cushions and vacuum underneath. Rent a steam cleaner for a deep clean.
- Replace all air filters. You'll conserve energy if they are clean.
- Clean out the garage and hose down the floor.
- Clean and ventilate the basement. Get out the dehumidifiers.
- Sweep entrances and replace doormats from winter wear.

The Bedrooms

- Launder all pillows, bedding and mattress pads. Put away heavy quilts and blankets.
- Rotate/flip the mattresses.
- De-clutter closets and move in your spring/summer wardrobe. Store your cold weather clothing and donate old clothing.
- De-clutter and deep clean each room one at a time.

The Kitchen and Pantry

- "Self clean" or manually clean the oven.
- Wipe down the cabinets inside and out. Replace any liners if needed.
- Discard expired food from the refrigerator and freezer.
- Check your spices for expiration.
- Wipe down all refrigerator shelves.
- Replace baking soda in the back of the refrigerator.
- Dust and vacuum the refrigerator coil.
- Clean the drip pan under the refrigerator.
- Clean out the pantry and discard expired food.
- Wipe down the pantry shelves. Check for low staple foods.
- Clean and disinfect the kitchen trashcan and recycle bins.
- Run cut lemons and ice through the garbage disposal. This will sharpen the blades and freshen it.
- Clean and polish any marble or stone countertops.

The Bathrooms

- Clean bathmats.
- Restock toilet paper, hand towels and soap.
- Clean and disinfect all trashcans.
- Clean or replace toothbrushes. Soaking these in hydrogen peroxide is quick and easy!
- Clean and disinfect toothbrush holders and soap holders.
- Polish and clean fixtures.
- Clean and polish any marble or stone countertops.

Finishing Up the Inside

- Dust/vacuum all window sills and baseboards.
- Dust bookshelves and display cases.
- Clean the carpets and rugs.
- Wash interior windows.
- Switch direction of ceiling fans to counterclockwise.

Outside the House

- Pressure wash the house. Find any problem areas that need paint or touch up.
- Check the caulking and weather seals around doors and windows. You'll thank yourself when you get your first heating bill.
- Wash outside windows and screens. This is best done on a cloudy day so they won't dry too fast plus you can see streaks easier.
- Check the dryer exhaust pipe. Make sure the exterior door closes to conserve A/C. A clogged exhaust pipe is a fire hazard!
- Clean out the gutters and downspouts.
- Pressure wash the deck to remove mildew and grime.
- Clean outdoor furniture. Cover or store them along with summer toys.
- Clean the bbq grill. Fill up the gas tank.
- Clean off outdoor light fixtures. Check for bulbs that need replacing.
- Bring garden hoses out of storage.
- Check and prep the A/C.
- Vacuum the inside of your car, change the windshield wipers and add wiper fluid.

Important Extras

- Stock up on air filters.
- Stock up on extra batteries and light bulbs.
- Check the batteries in all flashlights. Make sure you have candles and matches in case of a power outage.
- Test smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.
- Update your family emergency kit.