

Cleaning Tips You Can Count On For Your Home

Tips provided by your local Cleaning Services

Multi Services

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Get rid of dirt and mildew from your grout



Grout is porous and absorbs oils from shampoos, conditioners, and soaps, which can lead to mildew growth that can spread to the tiles it surrounds. Clean mildew with a mix of 10 parts water to 1 part bleach and a soft-bristled brush. Follow up with a pH-neutral cleaner to remove the bleach solution.

Deodorize your home with simple everyday product



Deodorize: Even with regular cleaning you will find areas of your home that need a little help. Coffee grinds are a natural way to remove odor from your home. Just put them in a bowl or small open air container and stick them in any area of your home that needs freshened up such as drawers or closets. Change the grounds fairly regularly. You'll find the odors will disappear!

Enjoy your Shower again



Shower Heads: Add 2 tbsp of baking soda & 4-5 drops blue Dawn to a Ziploc bag. Place the bag around the shower head. Add approx. 1/2 cup vinegar to the Ziploc bag and secure the bag with a rubber band. Let soak at least 30 minutes. Use an old toothbrush to scrub and rinse with hot water. This soak is excellent for any shower head regardless of all the nooks & crevices!

Keep your shower glass as shiny as the rest of the bathroom



Glass Showers: Make your glass doors shine by rubbing a teaspoon of lemon oil on your glass doors twice a month. This causes the water to bead-up and roll off.

Keep your dish washer as clean as your dishes



Once a week, shake baking soda on a damp sponge and wipe around the machine's edges to remove stuck-on food or stains. To clean the inside, run an empty cycle with Dishwasher Magic, a product designed to kill bacteria like E.coli. During cold and flu season, add a quarter-cup of bleach to the regular dish cycle to kill bacteria. The dishes will be safe and sanitized after the rinse cycle is finished.

Bring your wood back to it's beautiful form



Nicks and scratches on your favorite wood furniture or floors? Try mixing 1/4 cup vinegar with 3/4 cup oil (olive oil works to). Dip a dry rag into the mixture and rub over the surface. You will be amazed with the final results.

Burners like new



Cleaning all that grim from stove top burners can be scrub free and easy. Seal your individual burners in a large ziplock bag with 1/4 cup ammonia making sure seal is secure. Leave overnight and let the fumes of the ammonia remove all that grease and hardened oil. Then simply wipe clean with a sponge.

Make your clutter make you money



We tend to hold on to items believing we will use them down the road. Problem is, those items usually just become clutter. The best strategy is if you haven't used something since your last spring clean, get rid of it. Sometimes that means trash but sometimes that means cash. Take advantage of sale sites and yard sales. Less clutter, less to clean.

Ball out Scuff Marks



For larger areas of scuff marks, take a plain tennis ball, carefully cut a small “X” (about 1/4 “) into the top. To avoid injury, DO NOT hold the ball in your hand as you cut it, but rather place it on a firm surface or vise grip. Insert the top of a broom handle into the “X” and, using the tennis ball end of the broom, rub the scuff marks with the tennis ball.

Remove Toilet Grime



Hard water deposits, rust stains, acid/scale build up

If you know the toilet won't be used for at least 8 to preferably 12 hours, then drop in 2 denture cleaning tablets. Nothing expensive, use the generic store brand. Clean the toilet as you normally would, flush down your regular chemical and after the bowl refills, drop in 2 tablets.

The tablets work to remove stubborn stains and leave the bowl bright and white.

Cleaning With Natural Items



Vinegar, baking soda, and lemons all have natural cleaning powers that rival manufactured cleaning solutions. They are easy and safe to use, and can often clean for much less money than other cleaning products on the market.

One way to reduce the number of cleaning products you bring into your home is to clean with products you already have. People have been cleaning with household staples like vinegar, baking soda and lemons (or lemon juice) for a long time, and believe it or not, these items are safe and effective. If you clean with these natural cleaners, you may buy less, spend less money and have fewer harsh chemicals to worry about.

Cleaning with Vinegar



Although vinegar is not registered as a disinfectant with the EPA, it will kill both salmonella and E.coli, two bacteria you'll want to avoid. Consequently, white vinegar can be used to clean loads of things around your home. Here are just a few suggestions for what you can clean with vinegar:

In the kitchen:

- Clean your coffeemaker: Run the machine with equal parts water and vinegar. Halfway through the cycle, turn it off and let it sit for an hour. Then complete the cycle.

- Unclog a drain: Pour 1/2 cup vinegar and 1/2 cup baking soda down the drain. Rinse with water.
- Clean your microwave: Put one cup vinegar and one cup water in a bowl and microwave on high for about 10 minutes. Afterward, stains and dried food should be easy to wipe away.
- Make glasses sparkle: Put one cup of vinegar in the bottom of your dishwasher before you run the cycle. After you run the dishwasher, your glassware shouldn't be cloudy.

In the bathroom:

- Remove mineral deposits from a showerhead: Put vinegar in a plastic bag and tie the bag around the showerhead. Let the bag sit overnight, and rinse the showerhead with water in the morning.
- Prevent mildew in the shower: Spray vinegar on shower walls and curtains.

Throughout the home:

- Clean glass: Mix one tablespoon of vinegar in a quart of water. Spray onto glass surfaces and wipe dry.
- Remove mold from walls: Spray vinegar on walls, let sit for 15 minutes, rinse and let dry.
- Clean spills on carpet: After removing as much liquid as you can, spray the stain with a solution of half vinegar and half water and let sit for two minutes. Blot with a towel.

Miscellaneous:

- Remove stickers: Rub labels with vinegar, let sit for 10 minutes, then remove.
- Remove skunk odor from a dog: If your dog has a run-in with a skunk, scrub its fur with a half vinegar, half water solution and then rinse with water.

Cleaning with Baking Soda

Baking Soda can do more than keep your fridge smelling fresh and aid with baking. Its odor absorbing properties are useful throughout the home and it is capable of removing tough stains because of its abrasiveness. Additionally, baking soda is completely non-toxic and unlike vinegar, it doesn't have a strong smell. Try out baking soda for some of these household cleaning tasks:



In the kitchen:

- Remove stains from coffee and tea mugs: Fill mugs with one part baking soda and two parts water and let sit over night. Scrub and rinse in the morning.

- Remove odors from food containers: Simply rinse containers with baking soda and water to remove smells. Let sit overnight if necessary.
- Remove burnt food from the bottoms of pots and pans: Sprinkle baking soda over the burnt areas, add hot water and let sit over night. Scrub in the morning.
- Polish silver flatware: Make a paste with three parts baking soda, one part water and rub onto the silver with a clean cloth. Rinse with water.
- Clean spills in the oven: Scrub the bottom of the oven with steel wool and baking soda. (Note: If you have a self-cleaning oven, don't use this method.)

In the bathroom:

- Clean hairbrushes and combs: Soak brushes and combs in a baking soda/water solution.

Throughout the home:

- Remove odors from upholstered furniture: Simply sprinkle the fabric with baking soda and then vacuum.
- Erase crayon marks from walls: If your kids decide to use your walls as art canvases, put a baking soda paste of equal parts soda and water on the area, let dry and then wipe away. (Note: This method works best on white walls; colored walls could lose some of their color.)
- Clean no-wax and tile floors: To achieve clean floors without scratching them, mix 1/2 cup baking soda in a bucket of water. Mop the floor and rinse.
- Deodorize rugs: Sprinkle the rug with baking soda (like you would for upholstered furniture), let sit for 15 minutes, and then vacuum.

Miscellaneous:

- Remove burnt food from a grill: Sprinkle the grill with baking soda, then soak in water for a few hours.
- Clean lawn furniture: Mix 1/4 cup baking soda with one quart of warm water and wipe down furniture.

Cleaning with Lemon

Have extra lemons or a bottle of Lemon Juice that you rarely use? There's a reason that plenty of cleaning supplies have citrus in them; according to the DIY Network, lemons are a natural disinfectant and stain remover because of their acidity. As an added bonus, lemons will leave your house with a pleasant scent. Here are some common tasks that lemons (or bottled lemon juice) are up for:



In the kitchen:

- Clean laminate countertops and cutting boards: Squeeze the juice of a lemon onto the counter or cutting board. Rub the lemon into the stains and let sit until the stains disappear, then rinse. (Although lemons do inhibit the growth of bacteria, it's advisable to seek out alternatives for cleaning surfaces that have been touched by things like raw meat to ensure you or your family members don't get sick.)
- Remove stains from food storage containers: Squeeze the juice of a lemon into the containers, then add a little baking soda. Rub the mixture into the stains. Let sit overnight if necessary.
- Clean your microwave: Slice a lemon, put it in a bowl of water and microwave for 45 seconds. This should make stains easier to wipe away and eliminate unpleasant odors.
- Keep your refrigerator smelling nice: If you want your fridge to have a fresh scent, simply put half a lemon inside.

In the bathroom:

- Prevent lime scale on faucets: Rub the fixtures with lemon juice and let sit overnight. Rinse in the morning.
- Remove stains from grout: Make a paste from lemon juice and a teaspoon of cream of tartar (a natural bleaching agent) and apply to the area with a toothbrush. Once the stain is gone, rinse with water.

Throughout the home:

- Clean glass: Mix four tablespoons of lemon juice with 1/2 gallon of water. Spray on glass and clean as usual.
- Polish furniture: Mix one teaspoon of lemon juice with one pint of vegetable or mineral oil. Rub onto furniture.

Miscellaneous:

- Remove rust stains from clothes: Apply lemon juice to the stain, sprinkle with cream of tartar and rub into the fabric. Let sit until the stain is gone and then wash in the washing machine.
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I hope you enjoyed our free home cleaning tips, if you would like to have your home cleaned by a professional at an affordable rate give Multi Services a call for your free estimate today

Thank you

Multi Services

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