

THE
Joyful
HOMEMAKER



Spring cleaning checklist

Everyone has to start *somewhere*, the key is to not get overwhelmed by how MUCH there might be on the list.

Spring cleaning room-by-room

Hello entryway!

- Remove furniture pieces, wipe them down, and clean
- Wash mirrors/ wipe down frames with a damp rag
- Wipe down any wall décor
- Organize and label keys
- Wipe switch plates as well as the doors

Tackle the living areas

- Move things and wipe down all baseboards with a damp rag (*Take note of any areas that need touch up work*) [These](#) work great for scuffs as well
- Change rags often to keep from spreading dust
- Wipe all wall frames with a damp cloth
- Vacuum ceiling fans well and dust with pledge, check light bulbs if replacements needed
- Wash interior window- Start by vacuuming sills, and washing them with soapy water. Use vinegar and water solution to clean windows, drying with crumpled newspapers or rags
- If needed, lubricate window tracks
- Take down outer screens, clean with a fine hose spray and soapy water (*Note any areas that need to be patched*)
- While screens are drying, clean outer windows
- Clean wood floors, [here](#) is a recipe
- If there is carpet, use a steam cleaner

- Wipe all switch plates down with cleaner
- Vacuum and clean out between and under furniture cushions
- If needed, spot clean or wash cases for throw pillows
- Dust lampshades with a fresh damp cloth, and (*unplugged*) the lamp fixture
- If leather, wipe the couches with [conditioner](#)
- Dust shelves completely, removing items and getting the tops
- Vacuum behind the entertainment center, carefully wiping down the TV on the front and back
- Empty out and vacuum and baskets/containers
- Take curtains outside, shake well, and put in the dryer on tumble dry for a few minutes. Spray with Febreze, and rehang
- Clean out any drawers, organize easily and cheaply with ideas from [here](#)

Don't forget the hidden closets

- Pull all the stuff out and vacuum
- Sort shoes and coats, get rid of outgrown things, and organize what's left
- Wipe down the baseboards
- Organize and label supplies, [here is what I did](#) (*Another big job but was worth it*)

Our kitchens are the hub

- Clean and vacuum tops of cabinets
- Wipe out and organize cupboards, purge where necessary
- Wipe down the cupboard fronts
- Empty drawers and clean out crumbs
- Clean the inside of the microwave, [here](#) is an easy tip
- Wash down appliance fronts
- Empty and clean out the inside of the fridge
- Check the freezer, and organize it with [these](#) ideas
- Organize pantry, check food dates
- Wipe down all baseboards
- Vacuum behind fridge
- Clean light fixtures
- Wash interior window- Start by vacuuming sills, and washing them with soapy water. Use vinegar and water solution to clean windows, drying with crumpled newspapers or rags.
- If needed, lubricate window tracks
- Take down outer screens, and clean with a fine hose spray and soapy water (Note any areas that need to be patched)
- Wipe down any vents
- Take curtains outside, shake well, and put in the dryer on tumble dry for a few minutes. Spray with Febreze, and rehang
- Wash trashcans
- Clean out the dishwasher, ideas are [here](#)

- Wipe all switch plates down with cleaner
- Mop, making sure to get the corners under the cabinets
- Clean disposal

The forgotten spots

- Clean out the water heater closet, check for needed maintenance
- Check light bulbs, take note of what is needed
- Notice areas that need touch-up paint or minor repair work
- Wipe computer keyboards and phones with an antibacterial wipe
- Empty closet if possible, **I know this is a big job, I was overwhelmed but really glad once I saw how dirty it was*
- Vacuum well, and wipe down any shelves
- Organize clothes and donate what doesn't fit, doesn't match, etc.

Our stairs and landings need attention

- Vacuum well, especially along the edges
- Wash banisters and railings
- Wipe baseboards and switchplates
- Check for carpet stains that need attention

Pee Yewwww Bathroom time

- Sanitize cabinets fronts
- Empty and vacuum out cabinets, organize
- Scrub toilet, (*Borax works great*), check seals etc. for needed repairs
- Wash trashcans
- Scrub the tub and wipe along the shower inset, check for needed caulking
- Wipe down décor with a damp cloth
- Wipe switch plates
- Wash down baseboards
- Clean mirrors and wipe light fixtures
- Clean air vents, [here](#) is an idea
- Wash the shower curtains, and replace liners if needed

Thanking the laundry for cleaning for us

- Check for leaks
- Wash appliances
- Run [refreshing](#) cycle for washer
- Check the lint trap and the hose connected to the wall (*ours had MAJOR lint, the [potential for fire](#), and we empty the trap often*)
- Wipe baseboards

- Organize cleaning supplies
- Wipe down any vents

"The humblest tasks get beautified if loving hands do them."---LOUISA MAY ALCOTT, *LITTLE WOMEN*

Bedrooms deserve extra cleaning love

- Wipe down and clean ceiling fans, dust
- Clean carpets with a steam cleaner
- Vacuum and dust all shelves
- Wash interior window- Start by vacuuming sills, and washing them with soapy water. Use vinegar and water solution to clean windows, drying with crumpled newspapers or rags.
- If needed, lubricate window tracks
- Take down outer screens, and clean with a fine hose spray and soapy water (*Note any areas that need to be patched*)
- For kids, get rid of toys that aren't used. Sanitize their play areas with kid-safe cleaners
- Shake out rugs
- Vacuum under beds, and between mattresses
- Wash all bedding. Consider whether linens need refreshing
- While you are here, is it time to add a little less practicality, and a little more restoration? Whether this is through romance or self-care, invest in the place that refreshes your each night