

House and Apartment Cleaning Tips

Your house or apartment was professionally cleaned prior to your move-in. Keep in mind that most 2-3 bedroom apartments and houses take 10-12 hours to clean per year of residency, especially if regular cleaning was not performed during the tenancy.

If you'd prefer we handle the cleaning, the cost is usually around \$150-250, depending on the size of the residence. Please make prior arrangements with us for this service.

Kitchen

- Clean all appliances, inside and out.
- Lift up the top of the stove and clean all crumbs and grease.
- Clean the oven with Easy Off. Follow the instruction. **WARNING:** Do not get oven cleaner on chrome, flooring or plastic.
- If you can't get the stove burner rings and pans clean, you can purchase replacements at Collier Hardware, Home Depot, or Wal Mart. (leave the old ones on the counter).
- Clean grease splatters on the stove hood and wall behind the stove with a degreaser like 409.
- Clean **UNDER** the drawers inside the refrigerator.
- Clean the door seals on the refrigerator, freezer, and dishwasher.
- Vacuum and wipe out all cabinets and drawers with a damp cloth.
- **DO NOT** move appliances. If it is necessary, we will clean under the stove and refrigerator. This is **MUCH** cheaper than paying for a damaged kitchen floor.
- Clean windows inside and out with Windex. Vacuum and clean window tracks.
- Clean air vent registers.
- Clean floors and baseboards.

Bathrooms

- Scrub the toilet, shower and bathtub with a non-scratch cleaner such as Comet (Scrubbing Bubbles does not work).
- Be sure to remove all soap scum from the shower or tub. This may take some elbow grease.
- Mildew can easily be eliminated from walls, ceilings and tile by spraying bleach on the spot. Let it sit a few minutes then rinse with clear water.
- Bleach poured into the toilet will remove most stains, but scrubbing may be required.
- Clean all cabinets, and drawers. Clean the medicine cabinet.

- Clean the mirrors and windows inside and out with Windex. Vacuum and clean window tracks.
- Clean air vent registers.
- Wipe down spots on the walls and ceilings with a damp rag and some 409.
- Clean the floors and baseboards last.

Bedrooms, Living rooms and Common areas

- Vacuum or broom cobwebs from all corners (both floor and ceiling)
- Dust off the shelves in closets.
- Remove all nails and staples that were used to hang pictures.
- Carefully patch nail and staple holes so as not to leave too large a patch or change the surface texture. If you prefer, you may leave this for us to repair.
- Clean windows inside and out with Windex. Vacuum and clean window tracks.
- Clean air vent registers.
- Clean floors and baseboards last.

Other Tips

Carpets: Do NOT clean the carpets with retail rented or purchased equipment. These machines leave a residue that can damage carpet. It is best left for us to clean.

Walls: Do NOT wash walls. If not done properly we may have to repaint in order to fix the resulting problems. You SHOULD wipe down door jambs and doors, as well as remove scuff marks and small spots on walls. Be sure to clean all electrical covers and light switches.

Outside (yards and parking area): Be sure both front and back yards are clean of all litter, including beer cans and bottles, paper, cigarette butts etc. Replace all screens if they are not on the windows.

Trash cans must be neat, with lids closed. DO NOT put anything beside the trash can or dumpster. The garbage company will not take garbage left next to a garbage can or dumpster. Our contractors will charge a minimum of \$25.00 per item to remove any items left behind.

Keys: Leave all keys on the kitchen counter and lock the doors behind you.