



**Newsletter**  
**August**

**INSIDE THIS  
ISSUE:**

1. CLEAN KITCHEN,  
HEALTHY HOME
2. THE ULTIMATE  
CLEAN-HOME  
CALENDAR
3. CLEANING DO'S  
AND DON'TS

**Note From The Editor:**

*For the safety of your home & your family, please remember to periodically check the battery in your home's smoke & CO2 detector (s). If after replacing the battery, you realize that your smoke or CO2 detector is still not functional, please contact John Williford (BJ & R Construction) @ 776-2643 as soon as possible.*

*Thank you for your cooperation!!*

\*\*\*\*\*

**Maintenance  
Tip of the Month**

Please be sure to use your bathroom ceiling fan during and after using the shower to prevent moisture & mold build up.

**Clean Kitchen, Healthy Home**

Use this step-by-step guide for germ-free major kitchen appliances.

**Refrigerators and Freezers**

Both freezers and refrigerators should be cleaned about once a month, and spills should always be wiped up immediately.

1. To clean your refrigerator, turn the control to "off," unplug it, take out all removable parts and clean them with a solution of 3 ounces ammonia or disinfectant cleaner and 3 gallons of water.
2. Then, using a soft, white nylon cleaning sponge, wash the interior, and sponge off hardened food.
3. Dry the inside with an absorbent cloth.
4. Next, allow the freezer to warm up so your cloth won't stick as you wipe down the inside.
5. Remember to clean the entire freezer: removable parts, inside walls, door liner and gasket, plastic

parts, defrost pan and condenser coils.

The exteriors of refrigerators and freezers need a little special attention:

1. Begin with a once-over, using a sponge, cloth or paper towel dampened with same solution as above.
2. Wax painted metal surfaces with an appliance wax (or good-quality auto paste wax) at least twice a year to protect them from rust. Apply wax with a clean, soft cloth and avoid plastic parts.
3. Vacuum condenser coils when dusty or dirty. Coils may need to be cleaned as often as every other month.

**Stoves**

Think of how often you use your stove and clean it accordingly.



1. First take the burner pans out and soak them in hot, soapy water while you clean the rest of the stove.
2. To clean the top, back and sides of the stove, use hot water and a curly plastic cleaning pad soaked with cleaning solution.
3. Clean the racks with a soapy steel-wool pad.
4. Wash the walls and door with warm, soapy water.
5. Use a steel-wool pad or plastic scrubbing pad for heavily soiled areas.
6. Keep the window clean with warm, soapy water.
7. Use foil in the bottom of the oven to catch runovers and spills.



# The Ultimate Clean-Home Calendar

Provided By: Reader's Digest

You don't need to clean everything every day to have a tidy home. Here's what experts say about how often you really need to clean.

Wanting to keep a clean home doesn't mean you have time to polish your silver every week. We spoke with cleaning experts who have both feet solidly planted in the real world and asked how often specific cleaning tasks really need to be done. Here's the scoop on what to clean and how often:

## EVERY DAY

- Put things away when you finish using them.
- Wash dishes, wipe kitchen counters, clean up stove spills, and empty trash as needed.
- Squeegee showers after use to prevent mineral deposits and mildew.
- Wipe sinks.
- Make beds and straighten rooms.

## TWICE A WEEK

- Dust-mop hardwood floors to prevent scratching from dirt.
- Put away clutter.
- Vacuum if you live in a dusty region or have children and pets that track in lots of dirt. Otherwise, weekly vacuuming should suffice.

## ONCE A MONTH

- Wipe or vacuum baseboards and blinds.
- Sweep the garage, patio, and walkways.
- Vacuum upholstered furniture with the brush attachment.
- Clean ceiling fixtures in one room per month (rotate).
- Wash throw rugs.
- Dust ceiling fans.

## EVERY THREE MONTHS

- Polish wood furniture.
- Remove cobwebs from ceiling corners, stairwells, and such.
- Change or clean furnace and air-conditioner filters (less frequently in low-use seasons).
- Clean the oven (monthly if grunge builds up quickly).

## EVERY SIX MONTHS

- Wash windows inside and out. Do this quarterly for windows near work spaces (the kitchen sink or a desk, for instance).
- Declutter storage areas in the basement, attic, and garage.
- Vacuum, flip, and rotate mattresses.
- Polish silver.
- Air out pillows.

## ONCE A YEAR

- Move heavy furniture to clean behind and underneath.
- Vacuum rug pads and the backs of area rugs.\*
- Clean drapes and carpets.
- Turn area rugs 180 degrees to even out wear.\*
- Wash walls.
- Clean chandeliers.

## Clean Kitchen, Healthy Home (Cont'd)

### Dishwashers

Dishwashers are normally self-cleaning; however, you may want to periodically check the bottom to see if any large particles have not gone through the strainer portion of the module.

1. Wipe the edge of the inner door liner to remove any food soil splashes that occurred during loading.
2. Get rid of odor. Dishwasher odors are likely related to a chemical (chlorine) odor from the detergent or a food odor from soiled items sitting in it. Try using a different detergent, especially a lemon-scented one, or purchase a fresh package.
3. Cleaned the front of the dishwasher with a soft damp cloth and liquid spray cleaner.

### Decorative Appliances

Black-fronted and stainless steel models can sometimes be tricky to clean. Try these ideas for success:

1. Use a glass cleaner and a soft cloth instead of paper towel to avoid a lint problem.
2. Always spray the cleaner onto the cloth; spraying directly onto the appliance surface will cause streaks.
3. Use a dust cloth to pick up any lint or small particles left behind by the cleaning cloth.
4. If you have to scrub, use a gentle white nylon-backed sponge—the coarser kinds will scratch surfaces.

## Cleaning Do's and Don'ts

- Don't use abrasive scouring cleansers, metal scrapers or harsh steel wool or abrasive scouring pads on your appliances. (These can damage the enamel, stainless steel and plastic surfaces.)
- Do use a solution of heavy-duty cleanser or grease cutter in a spray bottle, a soft white (non-abrasive) nylon cleaning pad and a drying towel.
- Don't wipe up stubborn grease stains before the cleaning solution has time to work.
- Do use an alcohol-based evaporating window cleaner as polish to shine an appliance exterior.