

Tips of the Trade - Handy Cleaning Advice for at Home and Work

*Most of these tips will be well known to you already,
but some will be of real use.*

*Do you have any good cleaning tips? Feel free to share them with us on
customerservice@spotlessclean.co.uk*

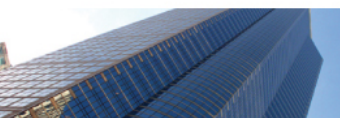
Dusting

- Dust first and vacuum second. Any bits of dust and dirt will fall to the floor where they will be collected in the vacuum cleaner.
- The best dust cloth is a damp, clean microfibre cloth. The cloth should be just damp enough to pick up dust without leaving moisture streaks on the furniture.
- Never dust a warm or hot light bulb with a damp cloth, as the bulb will shatter.
- Dampen a clean, soft paintbrush to remove dust from louvered doors, telephone keys, carved furniture, etc.
- Wipe wood surfaces with the grain to avoid streaks.



Floors

- Use a cloth on the end of a mop handle to reach the narrow space between appliances.
- To reduce the risk of slip and fall accidents, place anti-slip backing under rugs.
- Look underneath the furniture before vacuuming so the vacuum does not pick up small items such as toys, jewellery, coins, etc.



Kitchen Appliances

- To soften splatters inside the microwave, fill a cup with water and microwave on high for a few minutes. The steam will loosen any baked on food so you can easily wipe it clean.
- Allow burner rings and drip pans from the stove to soak in a sink full of hot, soapy water. This will loosen the dirt and make them easier to clean.
- Spray oven racks in a plastic rubbish bag for easier cleaning.
- Dish cloths and sponges can be incubators for germs. Launder dish cloths regularly, and microwave damp sponges in the microwave on high for several minutes to kill bacteria.



Vacuuming

- If your vacuum has poor suction it might be the result of a blocked hose. To check for a blockage, disconnect the hose and then drop a penny down the hose. If the penny falls out, your hose is likely not the problem.



Emptying Bins

- If you have a bin where you have to regularly change the liner, simply keep a supply in the bottom of the bin. That way they are there within your grasp in the same action as removing the liner. After a while, you'll never go back to carrying them about with you.



Bathrooms



- Use a toothbrush for hard to reach areas around the soap holder, taps and drain.
- Always work from 'Clean to Dirty'. Even with strict colour coding with your cloths, do the dirtiest bits last, eg loo seat, outside of bowl, urinals etc.
- Cleaning the toilet brush - use the loo brush in the normal way in the toilet bowl, but with the chemical applied and the brush used, leave the brush in the loo for a few minutes to give the chemical a chance to work on the brush too.
- Add a fabric softener sheet to the wastebasket to avoid odours.
- A small window squeegee used on the tile walls after each shower will slow the formation of water spots on the surface.
- To unclog shower heads, remove and soak the head in boiling water and vinegar.