



## HANDY HOUSE TIPS

### CARPETS

- Its easy to keep carpets looking good and lasting for years.
- Having your carpets professionally cleaned at least twice a year will keep them in good condition and reduce dust from floating around your home. The fibres from the carpet are sucked up when they are professional cleaned keeping them from becoming dust in your home. Regular vacuuming slows down wear and tear and prevents everyday dirt and soil from causing unnecessary damage.
- Act immediately if there's a spill or accident and you will help minimise the stain. Here are some steps to follow:
  1. SCOOP up any solids before cleaning.
  2. BLOT as much liquid as possible with clean towelling
  3. APPLY cleaning agent to clean towel, not the carpet.
  4. RINSE with cold or lukewarm water, but don't saturate.
  5. BLOT DRY with absorbent material such as paper towel or use a cold air fan to complete drying.

### FLOORS

Tiles and Linoleum floors can be cleaned easily with nothing but warm water.

### WALLS AND SKIRTINGS

Dusting is one task that many don't enjoy because it seems as soon as you dust, the very next day there is a coating of dust everywhere. Following are some ways to help cut down on dust in your home.

- When washing your rags that you use to clean your home with, be sure to wash them in vinegar to cut lint.
- Ceiling fans in your home often attract dirt and dust. To cut back on dust that your fans hold, polish fan blades with furniture cleaner that has bees wax in it. The bees was will keep static on the fan to a minimum.

# HANDY HOUSE TIPS



## KITCHEN - OVEN AND STOVE TOPS

- Ovens should be cleaned regularly to be kept in good condition.
- If a large spill occurs you should remove it promptly. Saving you cleaning in the long run.
- Commercial oven cleaners will sometimes have to be used to remove baked-on grease, however these cleaners can damage surfaces outside and around the oven. Be sure to wear protective hand and eye wear.
- Removable parts such as racks can be cleaned more easily if allowed to soak in a sink or pan of sudsy water. A lot of soaking is better for the surface, and easier, than a lot of scrubbing. If necessary you can scour over oven racks or porcelain enamel with steel wool or a scouring pad to remove baked-on grease or food spills, which have not come off with regular cleaning. Don't use these too often or scrub too hard for you can scratch the smooth surface and make it harder to clean from then on.
- Control knobs can be washed in warm suds with a cloth or brush, rinsed and dried. If they come off they're easier to clean but do not soak them.

## RANGE HOODS AND FANS

- Firstly check manual instructions for cleaning your hood and fan as they may require specific cleaning.
- Range hoods and fans remove grease and moisture from cooking, and so collect dirt.
- Wash exposed metal with warm suds solutions and rinse. If very greasy, use ammonia and water and rinse. Never use abrasive scouring powders as they can scratch the finish.
- Wash light bulb when cool with suds and rinse and dry to keep the light bright.
- Fan blades collect dust and grease, which can restrict the air flow and cause motor overheating becoming a fire hazard.
- Remove the filter(s) and out in warm, soapy water. Let it soak for a few minutes, wash and rinse. Dry filter and put back in the hood.
- Some hoods have charcoal filters which cannot be cleaned. They should be replaced annually.

## BATHROOM

- Hang a squeegee in your shower to wipe down the walls after you shower to prevent soap scum build-up.
- A quick way to clean your bathroom is to run the shower at the hottest setting and close the door till everything gets steamy. The steam will loosen the dirt and make cleaning much easier. Then grab a cloth and start wiping.
- For sparkling clean glass shower screens, rub them with a sponge soaked with white vinegar. Rinse with cold water and finish off by spraying them lightly with furniture polish before shining. They stay sparkling for a long time.
- For safe and effective cleaning of your bathroom sink, sprinkle baking soda lightly on a damp sponge. Scrub sink and tiles as usual. Rinse thoroughly and wipe dry.
- Clean those hard to reach places in the bathroom with an old toothbrush.

## SPOT REMOVAL CHART

STAIN	USE	STAIN	USE
Alcohol	Cold water, detergent solution	Blood	Cold water detergent solution
Chewing Gum	Chill with ice cubes in a plastic bag, scrape/pick off	Chocolate	Detergent solution
Coffee/tea	Cold water, detergent solution, vinegar solution	Faeces	Detergent solution, clear household solution
Gravy/sauce	Warm water, detergent solution	Ink (felt tip)	Warm water, detergent solution
Lipstick	Detergent solution	Nail Polish	Clear nail polish remover without lanolin
Shoe polish	Detergent solution	Soft Drink	Detergent solution
Urine	Detergent solution, vinegar sol	Vomit	Baking soda, scoop up, vacuum
Wine	Cold water, detergent solution, vinegar solution		



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