

Spring Cleaning Tips

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Now that winter is over and Arizona's 120-degree summer is only months away, now is the perfect time to get that much-needed cleaning out of the way. The Maids, professional house cleaners, offer their favorite spring cleaning tips.



Wash Your Walls

Are your white walls suddenly looking yellow? Wipe away the grime by combining water with a tablespoon of dishwashing fluid and spray it on a clean cloth. Clean each wall in sections and let the solution sit for a few minutes before wiping it off with a clean, wet sponge.

Clean Your Drawers

Do you have to wash off that cupcake pan before using it? Empty your cabinets and drawers and dust off the items with a damp cloth. Then, using your crevice attachment, vacuum the inside of the drawers before wiping them down with a quart of water and two tablespoons of vinegar solution.

Freshen Up Your Fridge

There is nothing worse than opening a fridge and losing your appetite from the impact of the smell. Remove all food from your fridge, throwing away unused or expired items. Then, unplug it and remove the shelves and drawers. Wash them with a mixture of warm water and dish soap. Use the same solution to wipe out the inside of the fridge before drying everything with a clean cloth. Return shelves and drawers to the fridge and wipe off food items before returning them to their places. Remember to plug the fridge back in.



Find What's Hiding Under Your Bed

Your kids may not be so wrong about monsters living under the bed--that is if monsters are dust bunnies. There is at least one piece of furniture in each room of your house that has not been moved since move-in day. Pull those beds and couches away from the walls and vacuum under them. You never know what you might find under there.

Tackle the Toilet

Arm yourself with your hazmat suit--also known as goggles and rubber gloves--and clean your porcelain throne. Dip a sponge into a bucket with two-parts water and one-part vinegar. Use the mixture to wipe down the rim and the seat, but use paper towels to wipe the outside of the bowl and the base to prevent spreading germs. Flush the toilet and throw away your sponge.

Shine Your Grime

No one wants to get clean in a dirty shower. Give your shower head a shine by boiling it in a half-cup of vinegar and a quart of water for five minutes to remove mineral deposit clogs. If your shower head is plastic, soak in a hot water and vinegar.

For more cleaning tips, visit www.maids.com.