

Keeping it Clean: Plan Your Cleaning¹

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Clean as You Go

The clean-as-you-go plan makes it easy to have a clean and orderly home.

- Develop a basic cleaning schedule. Keep it simple and stick to it.
- Plan projects that you can complete in the time allotted.
- Involve your family. All members working together help make it easier to keep your home in good condition.
- Keep all cleaning supplies and equipment in one place. Store supplies in a container that is easily transported from job to job.

Tasks to do Immediately

The following tasks should be done immediately.

- Hang up clothing and coats as soon as you take them off.
- Put dirty clothes in the hamper.
- Clean dishes as soon as you finish eating.
- Make your bed when you get out of it.
- Put items back in their place after you use them.
- Vacuum or mop spills so they do not leave stains on carpet.

Tasks to do Less Often

Examples of tasks that you do less often:

- Change the bed sheets each week.
- Do the family laundry weekly or more often if needed.
- Wash windows each spring (or as needed).
- Dust weekly.
- Clean bathrooms weekly: toilets, sinks, counters, mirrors, and tubs.
- Change the filter in your furnace/air conditioner monthly.
- Clean out the refrigerator.
- Go through cabinets and disposed of outdated foods.

Remember: Scheduled household tasks are manageable unless the schedule is neglected!

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