

# Christmas Cleaning Checklist

## Kitchen

### Gather Cleaning Supplies

First grab all the items you'll need to clean. Here's a list I recommend:

- Cleaning cloths and sponges
- Gloves
- Soft toothbrush
- All-purpose, non-abrasive cleaner
- Stainless steel cleaner, if you have stainless steel appliances
- Glass cleaner e.g. Windex
- Lysol or Chlorox wipes
- Caddy or basket to store cleaning supplies
- Telescoping duster
- Mop and bucket or steam mop
- Broom and dustpan or vacuum cleaner
- Empty basket or box

### Clear Kitchen Counters

- Put kitchen items where they belong
- Store anything out-of-place in the box or basket and return it later

### Fill the Sink

- Plug drain and fill sink with soapy water

### Clean the Refrigerator

- Remove spoiled or expired food
- Empty food from storage containers into trash and soak the containers in sink

- Wipe fridge shelves from top to bottom with soft rag and all-purpose cleaning product
- Soak crisper drawer, if necessary or just wipe it out

### **Dust**

- Dust cabinets, light fixtures and top of fridge using telescoping duster. Start in one corner, up high and work to the other end of the room and down.
- Knock dust to the floor

### **Clean Upper Cabinets and The Microwave**

- Wipe down front of cabinets, handles and microwave (if mounted) with cloth
- Clean grates, hood and anything else high up
- Spray microwave interior. Let sit for a few minutes
- Wipe backsplash with cloth and soapy water
- Go back and clean inside the microwave

### **Stovetop**

- Brush loose crumbs to the floor with dry cloth
- Remove grates if your stove has them
- Wipe stovetop with non-abrasive cleaning agent
- Swap cleaning cloth if it's greasy

### **Wash the Dishes**

- Wash dishes by hand or place in dishwasher
- Clean other larger items in sink
- DO NOT drain water yet

### **Small Appliances**

- Remove crumb trays or drip pans from small appliances e.g. toaster oven, toaster, coffee maker and put them in the sink
- Wipe down outside of each appliance making sure to spray cleaner on the cloth and not on the appliance
- Rinse and dry pans in the sink and replace them

### **Clean the Sink**

- Drain sink
- Rinse with hot water
- Scrub basin with cleaning agent and rinse
- Clean faucet and handles

### **Clean the Counters**

- Spray counters with cleaning agent appropriate for the material they are made of and wipe clean

### **Lower Cabinets**

- Clean front of lower cabinets and drawers including handles and pulls

### **Large Appliances**

- Clean front and handles of large appliances e.g. stove, dishwasher and refrigerator
- Use toothbrush to clean seals of fridge and dishwasher

### **Floors**

- Mop and vacuum floors
- Empty debris from sweeping or vacuuming into trash

### **Empty the Trash**

- Remove trash bag
- Wipe down the outside of bin and lid using Lysol wipes or wash and dry trash can
- Add a new bin liner

## Living Room

### Gather Cleaning Supplies

- Microfiber cloths
- Mop and bucket or steam mop
- Vacuum cleaner or broom and dustpan
- Telescoping duster
- Furniture polish
- Febreze
- Glass cleaner
- Empty box
- Trash bag

### Clear Surfaces

- Remove clutter. Put items kept in the living room back where they belong
- Place items that are stored outside the living room in the empty box
- Put garbage in the trash bag

### Dust and Polish Surfaces

- Wipe window blinds, if you have any
- Shake curtains, blankets & throws to dislodge dust
- Using a microfiber cloth, dust off lamps, television, fan & décor
- Polish wooden furniture with microfiber cloth & furniture polish
- Clean mirrors, picture frame glass inserts, glass table tops & décor, fireplace screens and even the inside of windows with glass cleaner and another microfiber cloth
- Wipe door handles and light switches with Lysol wipes

### Clean Soft Furnishings

- Using upholstery attachment, vacuum cushions, backs and sides of chairs
- Vacuum baseboards and around heavy furniture with the crevice attachment
- Finally, vacuum the floors and rugs with the regular attachment moving small furniture out of the way

- Spray with Febreze

### **Final Touches**

- Spray room with air freshener
- Put away cleaning supplies
- Throw away trash
- Put items that don't belong in the living room in their rightful homes

## **Bedroom**

### **Gather Cleaning Supplies**

- Microfiber cloths
- Furniture polish
- Glass cleaner
- Lysol wipes
- Vacuum cleaner
- Mop and bucket or steam mop
- Telescoping duster
- Air freshener
- Empty box
- Trash bag

### **Clear Surfaces**

- Remove clutter from surfaces.
- Fold and put away or hang clean clothes
- Throw dirty clothing in the laundry basket
- Put anything that doesn't belong in the bedroom in the empty box to be stored later

### **Take Out The Trash**

- Empty the trash bin in the garbage bag
- Wash the bin with hot soapy water, then rinse and set aside to dry

## Remove the Linens

- Take down the curtains and remove the sheets
- Wash them while you finish cleaning. If your curtains need dry cleaning, set them aside to take them later

## Dust and Polish

- Remove pictures or artwork from the walls
- Work from one side of the room to the next and from high to low. Using the telescoping duster, clean the ceiling, crown moldings, light fixtures, ceiling fan, walls and baseboards.
- Wipe picture frames with a microfiber cloth and use glass cleaner to clean the inserts
- Replace picture and art
- Clean windows, mirrors and any other glass surfaces using the glass cleaner
- Wipe off all other décor
- Wipe off light switches and door handles with a Lysol wipe
- Clean wooden furniture using the furniture polish and a microfiber cloth

## Clean the Mattress

- Sprinkle baking soda on the mattress and let it sit for a few hours
- Vacuum the mattress
- Flip the mattress and repeat the first two steps
- Put on a mattress cover for protection

## Clean the Floors

- If you have carpet, sprinkle baking soda on it, let it sit for a few hours and then, vacuum it up.
- No carpet? Vacuum and mop behind and underneath and along the baseboards

## Final Touches

- Replace the trash bin
- Make the bed
- Hang curtains

- Spray the room with air freshener
- Put items that don't belong in the bedroom where they should be

## Bathroom

### Gather Cleaning Supplies

- Microfiber cloths
- Sponge
- Non-abrasive all-purpose cleaner
- Shower cleaner
- Glass cleaner
- Toilet bowl cleaner e.g. Lysol
- Lysol wipes
- Lysol spray
- Scrubbing brush
- Toilet brush
- Mop and bucket or steam mop
- Vacuum cleaner
- Trash bag

### Deal with Dirty Laundry

- Place all the dirty laundry and towels in the hamper. Wash these separately.

### Disinfect the Toilet

- Pour toilet bowl cleaner around the bowl of the toilet, including under the rim. Let it sit while you clean the rest of the bathroom.

### Clear the Bathroom Countertop

- Put away items that don't belong on the counter
- Clean the sink using a sponge and all-purpose cleaner
- Rinse thoroughly and wipe dry with a microfiber cloth
- Replace the hand soap and anything else that should be on the countertop

### **Clean the mirror**

- Spray the mirror with glass cleaner
- Wipe with a microfiber cloth

### **Clean the shower**

- Scrub the shower floor and walls using the shower cleaner and scrubbing brush
- Rinse thoroughly

### **Clean the Toilet**

- Rub the toilet bowl using the toilet brush
- Flush to remove the toilet bowl cleaner
- Wipe the seat, underneath the seat, rim and outside of the bowl with Lysol wipes
- Dispose of the wipes
- Spray the handle with Lysol spray

### **Empty the Trash**

- Empty the trash into the garbage bag
- Wash the bin with hot soapy water and set aside to dry

### **Clean the Floors**

- Remove bath mats and launder them
- Vacuum to pick up hair and other debris
- Mop to sanitize the floor
- Replace the bath mat with a clean one

### **Final Touches**

- Hang clean towels
- Restock toilet paper
- Pull the shower curtain across so it can dry properly, if you have one
- Straighten up any shelves
- Spray air freshener



## Rest of the House

### Carpets and Rugs

- Sprinkle baking soda on carpets and rugs. Let it sit for a few hours before vacuuming it up.

### Window Cleaning

- Spray window cleaner on the windows
- Wipe clean using a microfiber cloth

### Walls, Ceiling Fans and Light Fixtures

- Use a telescoping duster to remove cobwebs and dust from the walls, ceiling fans and light fixtures
- Vacuum up dust