

Cleaning Checklist

(or any time you want the house looking fabulous)

YOUR HOUSE MUST BE MOVE-IN-READY. THIS MEANS "WHITE GLOVE" TREATMENT!
YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO LIVE WITH SOMEONE ELSE'S GRIME SO PAY YOUR BUYER THE SAME RESPECT.

Floors

- Vacuum, sweep and/or mop every room in the house! Don't forget to reach below furniture and into corners.
- Steam clean carpets (professional job is best)

Windows

- Clean inside and out! Windows are often a feature when selling a home. Due to the natural light, it is very obvious when they haven't been cleaned properly.
- Remove all screens, place in shower and use shower head to clean thoroughly.
- Clean window sills and frames as dust and fingerprints often build up here.

Light Switches and Outlets

- Frequent use leaves many fingerprints, oil and dirt that those living in the house can often overlook. Avoid a potential buyer flipping a switch to find an unwelcome surprise!

Trim and Baseboards

- Wipe down and consider repainting if scuffed or marked.
- Wipe a dryer sheet along to deter dust from settling here.

Kitchens

- Clean cupboards, shelves and drawers inside and out. Empty to allow easy access and thorough cleaning; then neatly place all items going back in. This is a good time to pre-pack any items that won't be needed during the time you're selling. It will help declutter and organize your kitchen!
- Check cupboard doors for food or drink drips- especially near sink where water drips may be frequent.
- Clean cupboard doors around handles where fingerprints are frequent.
- Shine appliances inside and out

Bathrooms

- Scrub every surface including shelves, toilets, tubs, showers, mirrors, faucets and sinks.
- Clean floors and walls. Make sure to remove any moisture staining that has formed on walls (usually found where towels hang).
- Clean all towel rails and toilet paper holders.

Grout

- Scrub well. For really soiled areas, use a grout cleaner or 3 parts baking soda to 1 part peroxide. Mix and leave 15 minutes then scrub with a brush.

Caulking

- Caulking does not age well, especially if not painted over. It can dry up, shrink and leave voids (no longer serving its purpose) or discolour. Scrub discoloured caulking well or consider replacing entirely (usually easier).

Mirrors

- Clean mirrors and frames to provide clear reflective surfaces and soft glow within the house.

Sinks and Faucets

- Clean well into edges and corners for hidden grime.
- Shine faucets and handles for a polished look.

Light Fixtures and Fans

- Dust light fixtures and ceiling fan blades.
- Wash shades where flies have been (for droppings).
- Dust ceiling, especially around these fixtures.

Odours

- Bake half of a lemon for 15 minutes.
- Boil cinnamon sticks and/or lemon/orange in water.
- Leave containers with baking soda hidden.
- Open windows to let fresh air in whenever possible.

AFTER ALL OF THE HARD WORK YOU'VE PUT INTO DECLUTTERING AND PRE-PACKING, YOU MAY WANT TO CONSIDER HIRING THE CLEANING OUT TO A PROFESSIONAL. THAT WAY ALL YOU'LL HAVE TO DO IS MAINTAIN!