

## **Bathroom**

Of all the rooms in the home the bathroom has to be the one that gets more people to scratching their heads wondering how to solve a dilemma. My number one rule of thumb: give your product time to work. My number two rule: Prevention; prevention; prevention! A few simple changes in the bathroom will save your hours of work each month.

Please see the floor care guide for cleaning any kind of hard floor surface in your bathroom.

**Soap scum** is one of the most difficult problems to solve that can be eliminated just by switching soap. The talc in bar soap caused that buildup. Switch to liquid or a glycerin soap to avoid the problem altogether.

To remove heavy buildup, use Bi-O-Kleen full strength and apply it with a light cloth. Wait at least 30 minutes to give the Bi-O-Kleen time to dissolve the soap. Finish by dampening Light Duty Scrub Pad with water and scrub to remove. For weekly maintenance, dilute the Bi-O-Kleen one half ounce per quart spray bottle.

Squeegee your shower and glass shower doors after showering to avoid water spot damage. Our brand new Erase It for Bathrooms quickly and efficiently removes hard water spots from shower doors.

**Water ring marks:** Pour a cup of white vinegar into the toilet once a month to prevent hard water rings from forming. Let that set overnight then scrub with baking soda the next morning. Note: Vinegar will not prevent the rings made from iron deposits.

Our Erase It for Bathrooms is the handiest tool to remove both hard water ring marks and iron deposits from toilet bowls and around faucets without scratching like pumice stones.

**It's green and growing in my bathroom:** To reduce mold and mildew buildup problems in your bathroom, take a shorter, cooler shower. Keep a window or door cracked open if possible.

Remove mold on walls and ceilings by spraying them with straight hydrogen peroxide. Be sure to tuck away all towels and cover any carpeted areas with plastic. Peroxide is bleach and can remove the dye from fabric although this is unlikely to happen.

Spray the mold, wait 20 to 30 minutes and spray once more. Then wait an hour, if the mold is not diminishing you may need to spray a third time or perhaps find a stronger solution that the 3% found in grocery or drug stores. Some medical supply stores carry

20% peroxide. It will be more expensive but you only need 1 cup per half gallon of water, which should treat the entire area.

**Bathroom cabinets** need to be deep cleaned and conditioned twice a year to prevent the steam from drying the wood which causes the cracking and peeling. Our one step Wood Cleaner and Conditioner keeps them in top conditioned if applied three to four times a year depending on bathroom usage.

**Clear The Way:** Keep all the drains in your home clear and running smoothly by pouring one-half cup of Bac Out down the drains monthly. Bac Out is an enzyme and bacteria product that is 100% safe for city sewer systems, septic systems, holding tanks and the environment. It does an excellent job removing pet and food stains and odors from furniture, carpet and clothing. Safely with no toxic after affects.

**Moldy caulking:** Mold does develop behind caulking in the shower. Spraying straight hydrogen peroxide (I do not like bleach due to the toxicity) on the mold will help but it's going to come back. Mold must be killed to eliminate it. Since it grows from behind the caulking that area needs treatment.

Remove the caulking, clean the surface thoroughly with Bi-O-Kleen then spray with hydrogen peroxide. Spray a second time with the peroxide an hour later. The next day apply new caulking.

**Shower curtains** can be machine washed even the plastic ones - air dry. Add 1 tablespoon of Bi-O-Kleen to the wash cycle then let them soak for 30 minutes. Finish laundering. Add two to three heavy duty hand towels to the washer so the curtain gets an extra scrub.

**Potty training trick:** As you begin to potty train your young boy, lay a piece of toilet paper flat on top of the water in the toilet. Have him aim for the paper. Most boys love the game and their aim gets pretty good!

## Kitchen

Little tricks can make keeping up with the kitchen so much easier. Let's take a look at a few of them.

\*NOTE: Please see the floor care guide for cleaning any hard surface flooring.

I have quite a few number one rules for cleaning. The all star number one rule is: "give your product time to work." If you have food that has burned onto the stove, spray on some Bi-O-Kleen and just let it set 4 or 5 minutes while you clear the dishes. Then go back and wipe it off. You'll be amazed how much easier it is to clean these stubborn

spots. You'll be amazed how much easier everything cleans when you just give your product time to work.

**Disposal blues:** To rid the disposal of lingering odors, dampen a round toilet bowl brush then sprinkle some baking soda on it. Scrub the inside of the disposal to freshen the disposal. Now pour a cup of Back Out into both kitchen drains. The enzymes in Bac Out "eat" away at any food particles removing the offending odors from the drains. It will keep your entire drain clear except for tree roots.

It keeps all your drains clear so pour one half cup of it down each drain every month to help prevent clogs. Enzymes are healthy for municipal systems, septic systems and holding tanks.

Back Out eliminates stains and odors in carpet like urine and fecal matter or where the cat got sick. It breaks down food to remove those stains and odors as well.

**Grout Stains:** Stains in tile grout without a doubt are the toughest area in the kitchen to clean. Grout is porous so liquid cleaners seep right through making it difficult to remove the stain. You will love how quickly and easily our Stain Eraser works to remove those stains. It will not take the color out of colored grout like most liquid cleaners.

**Refrigerator coils:** Keep the motor of your refrigerator humming along by cleaning the coils at least twice yearly. A curved brush made for cleaning drains does an excellent job cleaning around the bends of the coils – do be careful not to puncture them.

**Kitchen cabinets** must be deep cleaned and conditioned twice a year to prevent cooking oils from penetrating the wood, which will dry and crack the wood. Our one step Wood Cleaner and Conditioner will keep them in top shape if used regularly.

**Clean dishes quick:** How often have you wished for a dish soap that was kind to your hands yet tough on grease. Now there is just such a product. Not only does our biodegradable Liquid Dish Soap contain Vitamin E and Aloe Vera so your hands stay soft but it is earth friendly and biodegradable as well. It is gentle enough to wash your car.

Yet you will never find a more concentrated liquid cleaner that is any tougher on grease than our Liquid Dish Soap

A little bit goes a long way. Not only does Mother Earth breathe a sigh of relief but your billfold does as well.

**Tasty leftovers:** Oh the number of times you heated leftovers in the microwave only to have the food splattered everywhere and the food dry out and be tough. Put the food on a regular dinner plate – never use plastic of any kind in the microwave. Then place a second plate over the top. When you heat the food, steam forms inside the plates keeping

the food moist and yummy. The top plate prevents food from splattering and hours spent cleaning the microwave.

To clean splattered food, heat a cup of water for 3 to 4 minutes on high. The steam loosens the food and it wipes right out. Make that a 50/50 solution of water to white vinegar to rid the microwave of any odors.

**Clean it easy:** When the dishes are cleared after the evening meal, grab a towel and the bottle of Bi-O-Kleen and clean one counter top or perhaps the stove or a refrigerator shelf a night. But the end of the week your kitchen sparkles and you have only spent an extra two or three minutes a night.

**I can smell it from down the street:** If linger cooking odors don't tickle your fancy, simmer a pan of water for five or six minutes adding a cup of white vinegar to the pan.

Place a 50/50 solution of white vinegar to water in a coffee cup in the microwave. Cook on high for 3 to 4 minutes. If that fails to deter those stubborn odors, place a charcoal briquette on a paper towel and leave in the microwave. Charcoal is far better at removing odors than baking soda.

**Under cover:** If the grease under the hood of your stove has gotten to the point of no return, spray on some foaming tub and tile cleaner. Cover your stove top to keep it protected. When it starts to drip, wipe with a clean but old rag.

**Black stoves and refrigerators:** Be sure to use a very clean cloth when working on these appliances. The grease and dirt on your cloth will cause them to smear. Our brand new and exclusive stain remover called Ion-A-Clean removes the smears and smudges left by other cleaners. Spray it on then let it set several minutes. The negatively charged ions in the water lift and separate the grease from the surface. Use one of our Swifter towels to wipe.

\*Caution: Do not use paper towels to clean these surfaces. Paper of course is made from trees that towel could contain slivers of pulp that will scratch the surface. Our Swifter towels will never scratch and they can be machine washed over and over. Air dry.

**Stuck?** Try our brand new handy Scraper . The easy to hold handle gives you just the right leverage to scrape off even the worst residue. It woks wonders removing all kids of stuck on things like labels from glass.

## **Bedrooms**

Undoubtedly the bedroom receives the least amount of attention when it comes to cleaning. It's so easy to ignore the dust bunnies along the walls and under the bed, but doing so can cause headaches, allergies and sinus problems.

I encourage all my seminar attendees to establish a regular maintenance routine just like you are hopefully doing for your vehicles. Your goal is to find ways to reduce your "travel time" keeping up with house work. You will give yourself an addition two to three hours a week just by following these few simple tricks. Then you have time to shoo away those dust bunnies.

**Don't lay it down, put it away.** Those sweat pants on the floor are lying right next to the dresser they belong in. So put them there! In the morning when you dress for work, put the hanger on the doorknob if you will be wearing the clothing again. Keep the clothes hamper close to the door. Then get in the habit of undressing in front of the closet door; with the hanger and hamper handy what could be easier?

**Take it with you:** Place any drinking glasses, magazines, mail etc that need to go to the main part of the house next to the door. When you head out for that first cup of coffee take everything with you. Then put it away!

**Trash day ease:** Keep a grocery plastic bag as a liner in one of the wastebaskets in the bedroom section of your home. It's easy to pick up all the trash in the bedroom area as you head out for the day. Keep spare bags on the bottom of the wastebasket so they are handy and quick to replace.

**Carpet and upholstery stains got you puzzled?** We could not be more excited about a stain remover than with our Ion-A-Clean. This remarkable product is actually water. The ions in the water have been negatively charged. [Read more here](#) This patented process encapsulates the soil separating it from the fabric.

When working with Ion-A-Clean in carpet, you must blot to remove the stain. It looks like the stain is disappearing when it has actually released from the fibers and is soaking further into the carpet. Simply blot it's that easy. Because it's only water, Ion-A-Clean is safe for use on wool carpet, Persian rugs, the newer fibrous type floorings and virtually any floor covering including hard surfaces.

**Keep ahead of the dust bunnies:** Deep clean one bedroom every three to four months, depending on the number of bedrooms in your home, to keep ahead of dust and dirt that attracts dust mites.

Begin in the closet removing everything on the floor. Use a barely damp cloth to dust the baseboards and the carpet just in front of the boards making sure you reach down into the crevice. Vacuum thoroughly and replace what was on the floor.

Then start on the main part of the bedroom with the wall on the left of the room working your way to the right. Pull out all the furniture along that wall and everything from under the bed. Be sure to dust the back of furniture, walls and the frames of the bed.

Nest strip the bed and vacuum the mattress on both sides. Remove the pillow slips then take the pillows outside and shake them thoroughly. Dust mites love to hide in the

mattress and pillows. Leave your pillows outside all day in the spring for a refreshing nights sleep!

**Prevent your wood furniture** from drying and cracking apply our Wood Cleaner and Conditioner three times a year. All your furniture will give you years of wonderful service. Our Wood Cleaner even removes water stain marks.

## Living Rooms

Who would not agree that the easiest way to clean a room is to walk in and sweep it with a glance! Nothing could apply more aptly than to the living room. A few little tips and cleaning really doesn't have to be a chore anymore.

**So how do you clean a stucco ceiling?** Try my trick of removing your glasses! What I don't see I don't clean. Seriously there is a simple way to at least remove the cobwebs. Grab a metal paint roller and attach it to a long handle. Purchase two to three replacement tubes of lint removers. They fit right over the paint roller and you can roll the cobwebs off any kind of rough surface. The cobwebs adhere to the sticky tape. Just be sure to keep removing the tape as it soils.

When stucco becomes soiled it really needs to be removed and the ceiling reworked. It is difficult to paint over stucco without it falling down.

**Mini blinds past the point of no return?** Measure the blinds then drive two sturdy nails into the back of your home one foot shorter than the width of your blinds making sure they are high enough off the ground that the blinds don't drag on the ground.

Remove the blinds and hang them from the nails. Turn the slats downwards. Start at the bottom of the blinds and spray your way to the top using a foaming tub and tile cleaner. Wait until the foam has begun to drip from the top then sponge off, reverse the slats, flip the blind over and repeat from the back. Dry and rehang. This painless procedure should only take you 10 to 15 minutes.

Be sure to spray the cord as well!

**Word of Warning:** It is very wise to write all your checks with a gel ink pen. Gel ink cannot be acid washed off a check if your check is ever stolen out of your mailbox. Just be very careful to keep the cap on and out of the hands of young children or puppies. Gel ink will not come out.

**Dust if you must** but let's do it the easy way. A word of caution first. Do not use microfiber towels for dusting. They are made from 80 to 85% polyester, which is plastic. Plastic scratches and it will over time scratch the sealant off the finish of your furniture, your car, the paint on the walls of your home, or any sealed or painted surface. The boxes

used to carry warning labels but that stopped when sales were not going as well as they liked. Microfiber is wonderful for cleaning glass and mirrors.

Instead grab an old but clean cotton tube sock. Spritz it with a bit of vinegar and water. Use one hand to move objects and your gloved hand to dust. You'll find yourself zipping through the dust.

**Glass trick:** Spray our Lint Free Towel with window cleaner and tuck that into your back pocket. When you come across glass in a table or cabinet, you can quickly remove the towel, clean the glass and keep going. Our Swifter Towels are wonderful and safe for cleaning TV or computer screens.

**Wood furniture** must be deep cleaned and conditioned twice a year to prevent drying. Using a clean, old cotton tube sock, pour on some of our Wood Cleaner and Conditioner . It cleans and conditions the wood with one application.

Our Wood Cleaner and Conditioner does a marvelous job removing water marks from furniture and keeps cabinets in top condition as well.

**Carpet and upholstery stains got you puzzled?** We could not be more excited about a stain remover than with our Ion-A-Clean. This remarkable product is actually water. The ions in the water have been negatively charged. Read more here [This patented process encapsulates the soil separating it from the fabric.](#)

When working with Ion-A-Clean in carpet, you must blot to remove the stain. It looks like the stain is disappearing when it has actually released from the fibers and is soaking further into the carpet. Simply blot it's that easy. Because it's only water, Ion-A-Clean is safe for use on wool carpet, Persian rugs, the newer fibrous type floorings and virtually any floor covering including hard surfaces.

**Cobwebs tend to hang around** the door hinges, window sills and across the tops of blinds and in those corners that are just out of reach. Purchase a new one and one-half inch paintbrush and tuck that in your back pocket while you clean. It is so much faster at removing cobwebs than feather dusters and you don't spend hours removing the cobwebs from the fibers. One quick wipe with a clean rag and you keep going. Ok, so I use the back of my pants but who is looking?

**Pet hairs on the furniture** clings to anything you are wearing when you sit down. Our Dry Sponge is used dry. Without water it is safe to use even on delicate surfaces. Wipe over the furniture. It removes not only dog and cat hair, but dust and dirt as well.

These handy sponges work wonders on pleated shades, lampshades, fabric car seat cushions and just about anything fabric material.

**Leather and vinyl furniture** also must be cleaned and conditioned regularly to prevent drying and cracking. Ink is particularly difficult to remove. Our Leather and Vinyl

cleaner and conditioner is the best on the market. Most leather cleaners only remove the dirt on the surface. They do not penetrate into those tiny crevices to deep clean and condition. This cleaner is one of the few that removes ink from leather and vinyl.

To clean leather and vinyl weekly, dust with a lightly dampened cloth. A microfiber cloth is both safe and affective for cleaning leather and vinyl.

## **Dining Rooms**

**Wood furniture** must be deep cleaned and conditioned twice a year to prevent drying. Using a clean, old cotton tube sock, pour on some of our Wood Cleaner and Conditioner . It cleans and conditions the wood with one application.

Our Wood Cleaner and Conditioner does a marvelous job removing water marks from furniture and keeps cabinets in top condition as well.

**It's a kid thing:** With small children in the home where spills often happen, you might want to invest in a couple of plastic table cloths. Cut one about twice as large as the seat of their chair. Turn the tablecloth fuzzy side up. When a spill happens the fuzzy part catches the spill and the plastic protects the seat. Keeping a second plastic cloth to place on the floor of any room so they can play games without the worry of staining the carpet. It also comes in handy for those youngsters who are potty training to place under them when they fall asleep on the couch or floor.

**Oh that spilled coffee** means hours of removing the stain. Not any more. No other stain remover could be more helpful in the dining room than our Ion-A-Clean. This remarkable product is actually water. Only the ions in the water have been negatively charged. Read more here [This patented process encapsulates the soil separating it from the fabric.](#)

When working with Ion-A-Clean in carpet, you must blot to remove the stain. It looks like the stain is disappearing when it has actually released from the fibers and is soaking further into the carpet. Simply blot it's that easy. Because it's only water, Ion-A-Clean is safe for use on wool carpet, Persian rugs, the newer fibrous type floorings and virtually any floor covering including hard surfaces.

**Dinner by candlelight:** Never place a candle on any surface without having a holder under it. Even when they are not lit, candle wax sweats leaving nasty stains in wood or any surface. Those stains cannot be removed.

Never move a lit candle. In fact never move a candle until the wax has solidified. Otherwise you will be searching my stain removal guide on tips for removing the wax.

I highly recommend buying soy candles that do not smoke when burning. Look for ones that have natural wicks without lead. Breathing lead from burning candles is not healthy.

Soy candles burn three to four times longer than wax candles. Burning smokeless candles saves your hours of labor cleaning soot from walls.

## Sun Rooms

Ok Houdini where are you when it comes time to clean the glass in sun rooms? One streak in one pane and it is visible from everywhere in the room.

Please see the floor guide section for cleaning hard floor surfaces.

This is where your microfiber products will outshine any other product on the market. First of all grab the durable and dependable Mary Moppins Cleaning System #1719 that includes our Extension Handle and 14 inch cleaning head. Toss in our Angle Adapter , the Microfiber pads that comes with the swivel pad holder and our Window Squeegee for the fastest most effective way to clean those windows inside and out.

Use an old but clean terry hand towel to remove the cobwebs both inside and outside the windows. Drape the towel over the Mary Moppins cleaning head. The round mop head conforms to the curves of the windows and the edge of the mop head is wide enough to clean the edges of the metal bracing as you dust the cobwebs. Then with the towel still draped over the mop head, pull the towel down the center span of those bracings to clean them as well. You will love the convenience and be amazed how quickly that job is finished.

**Outside windows:** Next tackle the outside windows. Never clean a window when the sun shines directly on the window. Doing so only guarantees smeared windows no matter how good your product.

Attach the Angle Adapter to the Moppins Handle removing the Grip Tite. Then attach the Microfiber pad holder. Angle the adapter to the correct position to angle over the top of the windows. The microfiber pads come as a pair one washes and the other dries. Dampen the washing pad with water only then thoroughly saturate the window. It will scrub away all the bird residue, dirt etc. Then use the window squeegee to remove the excess water. Finish drying with the microfiber drying pad.

**The inside job:** For the inside windows, use only the microfiber pads. You can use minimal water with them so it won't drip on the floor. Use the wash pad to clean the windows and the dry pad for, of course, drying them. A microfiber towel attached to the Mary Moppins Mop head will also dry these windows. The angle adapter coupled with the swivel action of the pad holder makes cleaning these windows a breeze.

The microfiber pads will work wonders on all your glass windows.

Should you find you prefer a window cleaner, purchase a 32 ounce spray bottle at the hardware store. Pour in one-third cup white vinegar and one-fourth cup rubbing alcohol. Fill with distilled water. I guarantee it not to streak and to save you money.

**Cleaning wrought iron or wicker** furniture so often found in sun rooms present problems all their own. Use water on wrought iron and it will eventually rust. Wicker furniture must be damp cleaned to keep the wicker from drying.

There is a safe product that not only cleans your furniture but will not rust metal. Some folks say our Ion-A-Clean is only water. Well they are correct with one small difference. Our water has been negatively charged. Read more here The negatively charged ions encapsulate the soil separating it from the surface, which releases it so stain removal is a mere wipe away.

Ion-A-Clean will not rust metal. Drop a nail in a plain cup of water and drop another in a cup of Ion-A-Clean. Two months later the regular water will be full of rust while our Ion-A-Clean will be crystal clear. It prevents oxidation and rust from forming.

When you spray Ion-A-Clean on your metal furniture the dirt releases and drips to the floor. Just think how much time you will save cleaning your wicker furniture. That job until now has been nearly impossible to accomplish.

Be sure to sign up for Mary's free bimonthly email newsletter for more of her tips then grab your copy of her booklet "Whistle While You Work. " It's fast and easy to read yet packed with as much information as you need to clean just about anything. When you do you will receive my free speed cleaning article by email. It is full of helpful hints a schedule and quick tips to reduce your clutter and give you back your time.

Now take a tour of my stain removal guide – it's free to print out then stop by the archived newsletter section for even more hints.

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