

# **10 CLEANING TIPS**

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## **E-Guide**

# 10 CLEANING TIPS

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# 10 CLEANING TIPS



## Cleaning Tip # 1

### How to Clean Suede

In the world of suede, there are two different types. You have suede leather and suede fabric. Suede fabric also known as faux suede simply imitates suede leather and can easily be cleaned by following the cleaning label on the item. Suede leather on the other hand is a different story and can be a bit more challenging because one false move and you have expensive ruined suede leather. Follow these simple tips to clean, not ruining your suede leather.

#### Get Rid of Body Oils on My Suede

Stains on your suede leather due to body oils can be cleaned with a good degreaser made especially for cleaning suede. Leather Master Leather Degreaser should do the trick!

#### Get Rid of Stains on My Suede

Start by taking a bath towel and rubbing your suede item with the towel to bring up the nap of the suede. Be sure the towel is clean!

If your suede stain is small and wet, take a paper towel and apply pressure, this will simply blot the stain out and remove. If your stain is dry, refer to number 3.

If your stain is small and dry, simply take a small pencil eraser and erase the stain away, GENTLY!

Rather wet or dry remove your suede stains by rubbing your item GENTLY with a clean damp towel and white vinegar. To assess your success please allow the item to completely dry.

If you are cleaning dirty suede shoes try using a wire suede brush to clean them, BE GENTLE!

## Remember!

**NEVER USE CHEMICAL STAIN REMOVERS ON SUEDE.** In addition, suede colors fade quickly so when it comes to storing your suede it is best to store your suede items in the dark and be sure to keep the moisture OUT! DO NOT use plastic bags for storage.



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## Cleaning Tip # 2

### How to Get Blood Out of Sheets

Therefore, it happened you got a cut or nosebleed, or someone else got a nosebleed on your favorite sheets and worse luck if they are white. Well great news all is not lost. Before you throw those sheets out in anguish, try these simple steps.

#### Fresh Blood Stains

1. KEEP the bloodstain WET!
2. Next, take the sheets and continuously rinse the stain until removed with cold water.
3. Once you have removed the stain you can now laundry your sheets as usual.
4. YES! It is just that simple!



#### Oil Blood Stains

If your bloodstain is old it will be a little more work to get the stain out, but all is still not lost.

1. Soak the old stain in cold salt water. Soak the stain for a few hours at least 3.
2. After soaking the stain for a few hours, rinse it thoroughly.
3. Next, soak the stain in cold water, but with a little ammonia and peroxide this time, and rinse thoroughly. If the stain has been removed, launder as usual.
4. If the stain has remained, try using and soaking the stain in an enzyme solution, such as Blood Buster Enzyme Cleaner, for 30 minutes and then laundry as usual.
5. If your sheets are white, you can always bleach as a last resort!
6. If your sheets are cotton, try using shampoo to clean and get the stain out.

# Remember!

**The longer a stain sits, the longer it has to set in, and the harder it will be to get out!**

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## Cleaning Tip # 3

### How to Get Whites Whiter



Whites are something that we all try to keep as white as we can! Tired of your whites looking dingy here is the steps you need to get those whites whiter.

If you have water that is slightly hard, try using more detergent.

For all water types, you can try soaking your whites in a lemon juice and water mixture overnight then wash as usual. Also, when washing as usual add the lemon juice and water mixture you used to soak overnight with your detergent to your wash water.

In addition, to get your whites whiter instead of drying them in a dryer, dry them in the sun. Unbelievably surprisingly, the sun acts as a great bleaching tool!

# Remember!

Visit <http://www.howtocleananything.com> for more tips!



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## Cleaning Tip # 4

### How to Clean Those Ivory Piano Keys

Even over time with not much play just from sitting oxidation can begin to take place and those once Ivory keys will become not so ivory any more. When it comes to cleaning Ivory piano keys there is no real easy solution and here is why:

First grab a pair of white cotton gloves as Ivory absorbs everything.

#### If your piano is antique and already yellowing

We suggest in this case hiring someone who is very experienced with pianos and restoring Ivory to evaluate your keys present situation. Please note that Ivory is VERY reactive to its environment and removing the age "yellowing" of your keys can diminish its authenticity. Now back to why you should hire a professional in this situation. Many liquids including water and chemicals are TOO harsh for Ivory.

Don't want to hire a professional well one trick to try to lighten the yellowing of the keys in a non-harmful way is to expose the keys to as much light as possible. The keys will naturally bleach in light and yellow in the dark. Lastly, you can try very gently rubbing the keys with fine steel wool to remove the yellowing.

#### I have a new piano I want to keep looking new

One to avoid the above is by prevention. Now there are tricks you can do before the keys get yellow and keep those keys looking like the day you purchased the piano. You can use the cleaning techniques once a week, once a month, or however you see fit.

First, take a clean soft brush or duster and slowly work your way towards the edge removing any dust from the keys.

Second, take a white vinyl eraser either grated or ungrated and GENTLY rub the ivory keys one at a time. Be sure to wipe away the eraser residue/bits using your white cotton gloves, the soft brush, or duster.

Third, if you can find anywhere use Groomstik. Groomstik can be used to pull the dirt off Ivory keys as it is a natural rubber product that is sticky.



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## Cleaning Tip # 5

### How to Save Time Cleaning

We are all busy these days and we want to save time wherever we can. Taking 3- 4 hours to clean the house once a week isn't working, a maid is out of the budget, or you are just unmotivated to clean? Here are a few tips that get your house clean and you can SAVE time doing it and put that time where you want to or need to. Claim your time back by:

#### Set up a cleaning schedule

Setting up a cleaning schedule to do a little cleaning each day or even every other day can save you precious cleaning time. This saves times because not all cleaning tasks will pile up at once and cleaning is easier if dirt never builds up in the first place.

#### Clean as you go

Cleaning as you go will save you cleaning time for all the obvious reasons. If you clean up a mess made or something you see dirty right when you see it then it won't sit and harden making it harder to clean later plus that is one less thing to clean later as well.

#### One per one

Don't have hours to spare to clean the whole house? Clean one room per week. In addition to the basics you are doing everyday choose a room to do the deep clean routine to, so you are doing one room per week.

#### Clean in a Top to Bottom Pattern

Cleaning from top to bottom saves you from having to re clean something you have already cleaned therefore saving you cleaning time. The science of gravity also applies to housework, dust, and dirt. So, always start cleaning from the top instead of the bottom so when dust falls it falls and when you clean the bottom, you will gather it all once.





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## Cleaning Tip # 6

### How to Select an Abrasive Cleaner

Desperate stains and odors usually call for abrasive measures. There are tons of products on the shelf, but which is right for you? Here are a few "abrasive cleaners" that will get the job done right and it is right for you too.

By abrasive cleaner, these cleaners simply create friction and a scouring action when rubbed against a surface. For most stubborn stains, a little baking soda will do the trick. If you need something, a little more abrasive then try Bon Ami. There is a Bon Ami product that can be used in just about anywhere in the house and their products are even earth friendly too.



NEVER use abrasive cleaners on antiques.



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## Cleaning Tip #7

### How to Clean an Oven

These days most ovens are self-cleaning. The self-cleaning feature can take ours and there is usually still some cleaning that must be done afterwards. Use these simple tips if you do not have the hours to spare or no self-cleaning feature to get that oven spotless.

The easiest thing you can do is as soon as the oven cools take a hot wet cloth and wipe up any spills this will keep burned food from building up, keeps your oven clean, and it's easier to clean the oven right then instead of waiting for food to build up and harden.

If you are one that likes to do things the hard way and let food build up and harden here is what you can do to clean your oven.

#### Use an Oven Cleaner

Any oven cleaner off the shelf such as, Easy Off, will do the trick when used right. Be sure to wear gloves and follow the instructions as these oven cleaners are made of harsh chemicals.

#### Use Baking Soda The Green Method

Don't want to buy or use the typical oven cleaner then use baking soda. Baking soda is the best all-purpose cleaner around, literally. Take an empty spray bottle (about one liter) and fill the bottle half way with water. Lastly, add about four tablespoons of baking soda to the water and shake the mixture until the baking soda dissolves. Wait until the oven cools after use and use this mixture to spray your oven between uses to break down build up and wipe away with a damp-wet towel. Several application of the mixture may be required depending on build up as it takes baking soda awhile to react with carbon so works over time, but not instantly, but it is an inexpensive green method.

# CAUTION!

**ONLY use this method if you are patient.**



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## Cleaning Tip # 8

### How to Sanitize Your Kitchen Sink

Many complain about the kitchen sink being so dirty. I mean after all it is a haven for germs and bacteria as the kitchen houses our dirty dishes and we often unthaw and cut our raw meats in the kitchen sink. Here are a few tips that will help you get that sink germ free and sanitized no matter what it is made of.

#### Ceramic and Cast Iron Sinks

Sanitize your ceramic and cast iron sink by creating your own sanitizing solution with a common household product you probably already have. Make a sanitizing mixture using part household chlorine bleach and about sixteen parts water. Note: PLEASE be careful and do not pour where the bleach can cause damage.

If you don't want to worry about using bleach due to the caution it takes or just because you don't have bleach there's an alternative. You can use undiluted white vinegar instead. Simply take a clean cloth, douse it with the vinegar, and use it to wipe the sink down to sanitize your kitchen sink.

#### Stainless Steel Sinks

To sanitize your stainless steel sink because of its reactive nature we suggest going to your local home improvement store and buying a commercial disinfectant made for stainless steel and use it according to the directions. NEVER use bleach on your stainless steel sink.





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## Cleaning Tip # 9

### How to Remove the Smell of Cat Urine

We all love our pets until they decide to use our house for a bathroom sending a reeking smell throughout your house. Before ripping up your carpet or selling your house, try these tips to remove the smell of cat urine from your territory.

#### My cat uses the litter box, but there is still a stench

For those good cats that use their litter box, but there's still an unpleasant stench try washing your cat's litter box regularly and adding in extra deodorizers for cat boxes that can be found at your local pet store.

#### My cat uses the bathroom wherever it pleases

For that bad cat that sprays/uses the bathroom wherever it pleases causing a major unpleasant stench, try these home remedies.

First, sometimes it is hard to find the exact sources of the stench so to first find the cat urine stains/ spots get a black fluorescent light and go on a hunt. Once you find the spot/s time to treat them.

To treat not only the urine stain, but also take the odor out make a distilled vinegar (white) and water solution either in a spray bottle or bucket depending on how much area you need to treat and treat the area. Rub the area with a paper towel or cloth once you have treated it with the solution. Lastly, once the solution dries wipe the area again with just plain warm water on a second clean cloth. To use this mixture on upholstery use a spray bottle and blot the area to be treated. Also, use cold water instead of warm water.

Another treatment solution is to mix in a plastic bottle:

- 15 ounces of peroxide
- 2 tablespoons of baking soda
- A little liquid hand soap

Apply the solution to the area to be treated and wash with warm water.

#### Removing cat urine from Upholstery and Carpet

To remove cat urine from your furniture and carpets you may use one of the treatment solutions above, but you can also choose to buy an off the shelf bacteria and enzyme cleaner.





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## Cleaning Tip # 10

### How to Choose Environmentally Friendly Cleaning Products

These days Going Green is a big push. When it comes to cleaning your house most would like to go green, but believe to achieve effective, clean sanitation, that harsh chemicals are necessary. Well, you are wrong, there is a way to clean your house effectively and go green too. When choosing cleaning products there are ingredients you are looking for to NOT be in your green product.

To Go Green leave the products on the shelf that contain these harsh chemicals:

1. Chlorine
2. Ammonia
3. Ammonium
4. Phosphates
5. Petroleum based ingredients
6. Isopropanol
7. Acids

Going Green or engaging in green cleaning means, you are not only cutting out harmful harsh chemicals, but you are also promoting healthy living. Here are a few green products for you to try cleaning with next time you clean:

1. Baking Soda/Baking Soda and water solution
2. Distilled white or apple Vinegar solution
3. Lemon juice solutions
4. Hydrogen Peroxide solution

If buying off the shelf products look for products that contain/are made from:

- |                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| 1. Soy               | 6. Tea Tree Oil                              |
| 2. Citrus            | 7. Biodegradable materials                   |
| 3. Baking Soda       | 8. Vinegar                                   |
| 4. Lemon Juice       | 9. Sodium Borate                             |
| 5. Hydrogen Peroxide | 10. Use products made with recycled products |

**REMEMBER! Check the label before buying even if the bottle says green or natural**

# 10 CLEANING TIPS

**About**

Cleaning can be a tedious task at times.

Use our 10 Cleaning Tips Guide to quickly clean those pesky, out of the ordinary things that most cannot clean...except us!

Check out my website: <http://www.howtocleananything.com> for more awesome cleaning tips just like these.

## Happy Cleaning!