



1. CLEANING APPLIANCES

I. Refrigerator

- The space behind your refrigerator is arguably the dirtiest spot in your house.
- To clean, pull out the refrigerator and mop up whatever you find. Then, vacuum refrigerator coils behind or beneath your fridge, which will put less stress on the fridge's motor and prolong its life.
- Replace loose door gaskets (you might want to check your owner's manual for replacement part numbers and find new gaskets at Design Trading Depot). You'll get the added benefit of saving energy with a tighter seal. Monthly, wipe gaskets down with warm, soapy water; rinse and dry
- A little soapy water or a 50/50 solution of water and white vinegar will clean and shine the inside and outside of your fridge. Wipe down shelves and crispers weekly, or whenever you spot a spill. Remove fingerprints on stainless steel exteriors with a damp cloth.

II. Oven

- For ovens, baked on food comes off with a little baking soda on a sponge, or a spritz of commercial oven cleaner (make sure to open a window before spraying to avoid choking on fumes.) Make a habit of wiping spills quickly after using the oven, and you may never have to scrub it again.

III. Microwave

- The best way to remove baked-on food is to fill a microwave-safe container with water, microwave it until the water boils, and let it sit for a few minutes while steam loosens any gunk. Wipe clean

IV. Toaster

- Unplug your toaster, pull out and wash its crumb catcher, and shake the machine over the sink to get rid of food. Dry thoroughly before plugging back in.

V. Washing Machine

- Start by wiping down the exterior of your washing machine on the regular and give the inside an in-depth clean every six months. It only takes three steps and the washing machine does much of the heavy lifting.



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KITCHEN HOW TO'S

- First, pour two cups of vinegar in the machine drum and run the longest cycle on the hottest temperature.
- Second, after the cycle is complete, mix 1/4 cup vinegar with a quart of warm water. Use a sponge and toothbrush dipped in the mixture to wipe down the inside of the machine, the soap dispenser, and the rubber seal, if you have a front loader.
- Lastly, run another cycle (hottest and longest again) without vinegar or detergent.

