

-- Spencer's Cleaning Tips--



Descal your coffee maker.

Remove caked-on minerals by filling the reservoir with a mixture that's half vinegar, half water. Let the solution brew halfway, then stop and let it sit for 30 minutes before completing the cycle. Rinse by "brewing" a pot of clean water afterwards.

<http://www.msn.com/en-us/lifestyle/cleaning-and-organizing/50-of-the-best-cleaning-tips-to-make-your-house-look-brand-new/ss-BB11qUEC?li=BBnbcA0&OCID=AVRES000#image=8>



Sanitize your phone.

The icky truth: Your cell might harbor more germs than a toilet seat. Zap germs with an alcohol wipe, and give your TV remote and computer mouse the same treatment while you're at it.

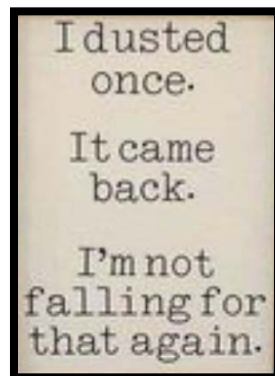
Fight pet stink

Deodorize the soft, cushy places around your house — including the dog bed — by sprinkling surfaces with baking soda, letting it sit for 15 minutes, and then vacuuming it up.



Soften fuzzy towels.

If you've got hard water, mineral buildup can make your towels extra scratchy. To lift deposits, wash the towels in the hottest water possible, and add 1 cup of ammonia and nothing else.



Restore your shower pressure.

Unclog your shower head by mixing equal parts white vinegar and water and pouring it into a plastic bag. Tie the bag around the shower head to immerse the holes in the solution and secure with a twist tie. Let it soak for up to an hour, then remove and wipe away the loosened deposits. (I do this at night and leave it overnight. ~Tricia)



Make a glass cleaner with vinegar.

Mix 1/2 cup white vinegar with 1/4 cup rubbing alcohol (70% concentration) and 2 cups water and dispense into an empty spray bottle. To clean your windows, wait for a cool, cloudy day and squirt the solution onto the glass, wiping with a clean microfiber cloth to avoid streaking.



Get stains out of a cutting board.

Run the cut side of a lemon over the board to remove food stains and smells. For extra cleaning power, sprinkle it with salt or baking soda first.



De-grease cabinets.

Just like your cooking tools, cupboards can get grimy when you're making dinner. Add a little dish soap to a spray bottle with warm water to mist away the grease. Then, rinse with a well-wrung cloth and dry.



Freshen up your microwave.

Make caked-on grime easier to wipe off by heating a cup of water, several tablespoons of vinegar, and a chopped-up lemon on high until the microwave's window is steamy. Let the bowl sit for 5 minutes before you open the door, and wipe the inside clean with ease.



Fight musty smells.

Just like in the fridge, an open box of baking soda placed near your sheets and towels can prevent a dank linen closet.

Make a mirror gleam.

Since coffee filters are lint-free, you can swap them out for paper towels to give mirrors a no-streak shine.



Fill your dishwasher — but not with dishes.

Plastic toys, toothbrush holders, and pet bowls are just a few of the items that can get clean the hands-off way.



Stay Well!

