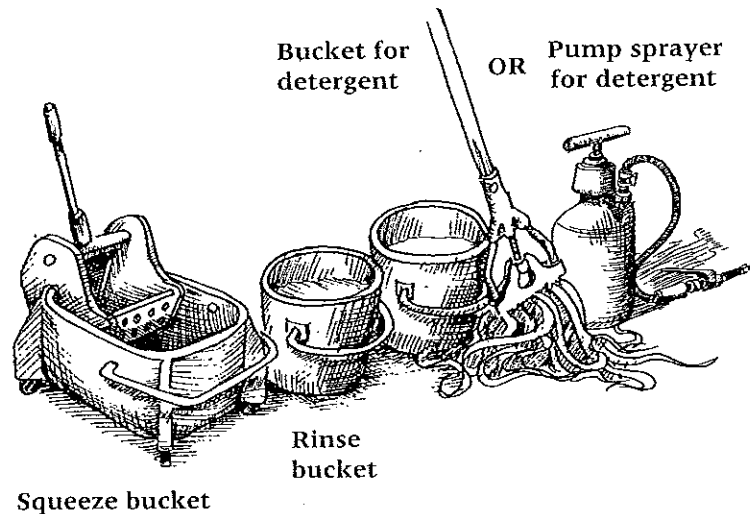


Correct Cleaning Methods



Floors—The sequence is:

1. Mist floor with detergent from pump spray container or dip mop head in detergent bucket, then ring out. Keep detergent water as clean as possible.
2. Wash floor. If floor is very dirty, scrub with mop, then rinse mop in rinse bucket. Squeeze out excess water into squeezer or twist bucket. If you are using twist mop, squeeze into empty bucket. **Never put mop into the dirty water that was squeezed out of the mop.** Rinse and squeeze again. Change rinse water often.
3. Again spray detergent on floor or dip mop in detergent water, then clean, rinse, squeeze, etc.
4. For rinsing floor, clean out buckets and repeat washing procedures but replace detergent with clean water. Do three to five rooms with one mop head, then throw it away or wash it. Use new mop head on those same rooms for rinsing.

Weekly cleaning

Maintain house by weekly cleaning, particularly the window troughs. When cleaning window troughs, use damp paper towels to pick up visible dirt, then follow with rags. Do not use these rags on other surfaces. Thoroughly clean stools and around baseboards. If there is any peeling or flaking paint, it should be dealt with (see wet scraping instructions on p. 25); meanwhile, at least keep any loose chips cleaned up. Damp mop all rooms, changing mop heads every few months. As much as possible, keep all surfaces smooth and cleanable.

Rugs

Remove rugs and send to be cleaned. Wear at least a NIOSH-approved mask (p. 40) when rolling up rugs. HEPA vac or vacuum the area under each rug as soon as it is removed. Misting rugs before rolling them up keeps down dust. Rolling the rugs in plastic prevents the spreading of dust.

Wall-to-wall carpets

Wall-to-wall carpeting cannot be well cleaned. It tends to contain mold, mildew, and dust mites. It can gather food particles which attract roaches. It can also gather lead dust. Unless it is kept dry, cleaned often with a good vacuum cleaner and replaced as necessary, it can become a health hazard.

It is recommended that wall-to-wall carpet that is not fairly new be disposed of and replaced with area rugs for rooms and runners for halls and staircases. The more bare floor is accessible and sealed the easier it is to clean.

To dispose of wall-to-wall carpet, you must wear at least a NIOSH-approved mask. Close doors to the rest of the house and seal them with tape before you start. Cleaning equipment should be in the room before it is sealed. Clean up before unsealing and opening door. Carpet carried out through the house should be wrapped in poly first. Any furniture that must be left should be covered with poly and well cleaned after removing carpet. This is particularly important for upholstered furniture. If you keep wall-to-wall carpets, the companies with truck-mounted vacuum machines will do the best job of cleaning. If you wet-clean carpets, use fans, heat, and open windows to speed up drying time to prevent mold growth.

Surfaces

HEPA vac or vacuum the unit from one end to the other, starting at the end farthest from the front door. Within each room start vacuuming from the top shelves, tops of doors, window casing, and other trim, then do every inch of the windows, particularly the trough. (Clean out trough with damp paper towels first to pick up paint chips and large pieces before vacuuming.) Vacuum upholstered furniture with a HEPA vac, including hard-to-reach crevices and under seat cushions. Then vacuum the floor using the corner tool where the floor meets the baseboard. Cracks between the floor boards should be cleaned with a corner tool. Use the round cup brush for all small surfaces. In most cases only horizontal surfaces need washing. The exception is in rooms where large amounts of lead dust have been generated, as in demolition, or where the wall surface is rough enough to hold dust.

Clean trim, windows and doors

- Pour cleaning solution (mix according to instructions) into a plastic jug or small sprayer.
- Dampen cloth squares by pouring the solution from the jug or misting the surface. (This avoids contaminating the cleaning solution.)
- Using two small buckets (one empty and one with rinse water), rinse out rag in bucket with rinse water, then squeeze dirty water into empty bucket.
- Change rinse water often. Throw away rag (or put in bag to be laundered) at least once in every room.
- Start from highest points and work down, cleaning windows, shelves, edges, mantels, top of moldings, etc. in each room.
- When cleaning windows, wash trough with paper towels first. Never use the rag you used on a window for other areas because you may spread dust.