



HAPPY SPRING TIDEE GANG!

It's that time of the year again, the weather is warming up, and though not officially recognized as a holiday, we've long been fond of using the arrival of spring as a marker to declutter our homes from the cold months of winter. The practice of spring cleaning isn't a new one. We look around our homes and workplaces; we want all things to be brighter, cleaner and more organized. Research indicates that these annual fits of cleanliness have a positive impact on how we feel. Therefore, this confirms our assertion that spring cleaning doesn't just look good, it feels good too.

Spring cleaning often involves scrubbing, wiping, and washing, however, most of the benefits arise from organizing our possessions. To share the feel good experiences of spring cleaning, we called on the pros who make it their job to get your house in shape, and they shared some of their best advice to get organized in a snap!

Get ready to clean, sort, and organize your way to a safer and more relaxing home for increased focus and productivity and don't forget to treat yourself to a bunch of fresh flowers on the coffee table.

TIP

#1



“Before you actually start your spring cleaning, edit and organize your cleaning products and tools. It will make your life A LOT easier if you know exactly what cleaning supplies you have and what you may need to get to complete the job. Then make a cleaning caddy with your essentials so you can easily carry them from room to room.”

*Organized Kind of Life, **Melanie Schmidt**, @organizedkindoflife*

TIP

#2

“Make a weekly cleaning list and never spend more than two hours of your time cleaning. Majority of people wait until the weekend to clean their home and it can often take a long time especially if you're the only volunteer. If you need to rotate what you do on your list to every other week or two weeks in order for it not to consume you're entire day, that's okay. Home cleaning is an on-gong process. As long as you're an active participant your house will stay in good shape.”

*The Feel Free Club, **Melissa Harris**, @thefeelfreeclub*

SPRING CLEAN: LIVING ROOM / FAMILY AREAS

- Remove curtains and clean the blinds
- Wipe door frames, ceiling fan blades, and light fixtures
- Clean windows and mirrors
- Remove all items from the shelves and furniture
- Put books back on shelf
- Recycle old magazines/newspapers
- Sort, organize, and replace useful items
- Dust furniture, shelves, mantel, wall decor, picture frames, TV, and electronics
- Organize and sort music, movies, and books
- Vacuum lampshades, upholstery, under furniture, cobwebs, floor



If you have carpets, children and/or pets, investing in a home steam cleaner for more frequent cleanings is a handy idea. Otherwise, you can rent or borrow one for better cleaning.

TIP

3



“Since spring cleaning often involves using a lot of cleaning solutions to get your house spick and span, I suggest using products with all natural ingredients to reduce chemical exposure.”

Organize to Live, [Bre’anna Wilson](#), @organizetolive

SPRING CLEAN: BATHROOMS

- Throw out expired cosmetics, beauty products + medications (*both prescription and over-the-counter*)
- Organize toiletries, makeup and medicine for easy access.
- Vacuum and wipe down walls and ceilings.
- Clean the bathtub
- Empty wastebaskets
- Get new shower liner
- Wipe down the mirror
- Clean the toilet
- Mop floor
- Organize medicine cabinets

TIP

4

“There is no better time to clean out your kitchen and pantry than during spring. After taking everything out and discarding broken items or those you no longer need, wipe down the shelves, measure and cut shelf liner. It’s the best way to keep your shelves from chipping or getting scratched and they also become super easy to clean. Shelf liner is one of my go to products to tackle the kitchen, pantry, laundry room and bathrooms. Try it, you’ll get hooked as well!”

ReOrgit, [Staci Ferber](#), @reorgit

SPRING CLEAN: KITCHENS

- Wipe cabinets, kitchen countertops, and ceiling fan blades
- Clean out cabinets, pantry, and drawers
- Do a stock-take and discard expired items, then wet wipe, dry and restock
- Sort items: **useful** (things you use regularly), **not useful** (things you haven’t used in a while), **garbage** (trash, expired items)

- Replace and organize useful items
- Clean the sink and under sink
- Sort recipe books/boxes/binders
- Wipe down chairs and table
- Take a look at the state of your oven, microwave and dishwasher
- Sweep and mop floor

TIP

5



“Try focusing on Spring Clearing instead of just cleaning. Having less stuff means less to clean, now and moving forward.

Become besties with your magic eraser. These little guys are my go-to to remove marks from walls, tables, floors and even that annoying sticker residue on new picture frames.

Use your vertical space for storage in the kitchen. Even the cleanest counters can look messy when they’re covered in stuff. Try using damage free hooks, clips and folders on the walls or the inner doors of your pantry. Less stuff out = less to dust and clean!

Try using open baskets and bins in your pantry to catch spills and loose food. This makes for a cleaner look and easy clean-up.”

Everything In Place, PRO Organizer & Owner Allison Weigensberg, @EverythingInPlace

SPRING CLEAN: BEDROOMS

- Wash all your pillowcases, bed sheets and blankets
- Remove curtains: clean and replace
- Wipe door frames, windowsills, trim, ceiling fan blades, light fixtures, switch plates, door handles, baseboards
- Clean windows and mirrors
- Remove all items from dressers, nightstands, bookshelves, desks, closets, etc.
- Dust furniture, shelves, wall decor, picture frames, etc.
- Strip the bed and sort what needs to be aired, washed or dry-cleaned. Flip and turn the mattress, sprinkle a little bicarb soda and vacuum with the upholstery attachment.
- Flip and rotate mattresses
- Remake beds
- Vacuum lampshades, upholstery, under furniture, cobwebs, floor
- Commit to a wardrobe edit, Reorganize closets. Store winter clothes and replace with warm weather clothes

TIP

6



“When trying to ‘spring clean’ any closet, large or small, the best way to do so is to take everything out and start again from scratch! This will save you hours of sifting, searching and moving and it also allows you to see your space from an entirely new perspective. Don’t be afraid to make your problems ugly and toss what you haven’t touched in a year, or, in one full season.”

Productivity with Purpose, Xenia Ferraro, @ProductivityWithPurpose

TIP

7



“Declutter expired makeup and skincare products. Look for the expiration date. No expiration date? Use the code found on most beauty products (the “batch code”) and type it into checkcosmetics.net or checkfresh.com to find out when it was manufactured!”

Sophisticated Organization, Sophie Fritz, @SophistedOrganization



Before putting away your cool weather jumpers and quilts for another year, wash or dry-clean them.

TIP

8



“A very simple and effective tip to get you motivated with spring cleaning this year is one that I used myself recently: invite some friends over to your home. Last weekend, we had some friends over to hang out and play classic video games. There is nothing like the motivation of having people over to get your space in order! It works because it gives you a true deadline to tidy up, and then you get the added reward of hanging with friends in your newly peaceful space.”

Outer Calm Organizing, Eric Saber, @EricSaber

Consider donating items to a shelter, hospital or church. Bring your kids along, they may feel better about giving away their beloved toys and games if they see how much those items will be appreciated by those who lack.

