

Steps to Clean a Messy House - And Get It Ready for Guests

Please note that this is a basic list for you to print and refer to. Explanation of the steps can be found in the original post.

Step 1: Take a deep breath, get out your calendar and some paper, sit down at your table . . . and be realistic about how much you have to do in the amount of time you have.

Step 2: Make a list of rooms by priority, according to where guests will spend the most time. Also look for tasks in each room not covered by normal cleaning.

Step 3: Throw stuff away. (Go through all rooms, in order of priority determined in step 2, before moving to step 4.)

Step 4: Declutter. (Again, go through all rooms in order of priority before moving to step 5.)

Step 5: Clean the kitchen.

Step 6: Clean the bathrooms.

Step 7: Clean rooms in order of priority. (Pick up, straighten, tackle the tasks you listed in step 2.)

Step 8: Dust.

Step 9: Vacuum/Clean floors.

Step 10: Repeat.

Room Prioritization Worksheet

Walk through your house, listing rooms to be cleaned. Start with the room that your guests will use most, and then list other rooms in order of how much they will be used by guests.

Under each room, list the cleaning tasks that need to be done that are not necessarily included in normal cleaning. For example: window-washing, ceiling-fan-dusting, etc.

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