

CLEANING & PROPERTY STANDARDS

The following guideline is provided to you to assist our residents in cleaning their leased home prior to vacating and to convey our expectations on how the property should be cleaned. We expect the property to be clean and ready for a new occupant to move in. If you closely follow the guidelines below, chances are very good that you will not experience a cleaning deduction from your deposit. This checklist applies to all of our properties and may include cleaning of items that are not present in your home.

KITCHEN

REFRIGERATOR – DO NOT TURN OFF, OR UNPLUG!

- Wash all trays, racks, bins with mild soap and rinse
- Wash all interior surfaces with mild soap and rinse, make sure it is free of hair, crumbs, etc
- Wash the rubber door seal
- For ice makers: Turn off and dump ice
- Do not use sharp objects to clean! (You puncture, you purchase)

REFRIGERATED COMPARTMENT

- Remove and wash vegetable, meat and butter bins with a mild soap & rinse
- Wash all interior surfaces with a mild soap and rinse
- Wash the rubber door seal
- Remove racks and wash with a mild soap and rinse
- Do not use sharp objects!

EXTERIOR SURFACES

- Wash all exterior surfaces including sides and kick plate with a grease cutting soap, rinse and shine with cleaner
- Pull out and clean under and behind

RANGE-TOP (FLAT TOPS HAVE SPECIFIC CLEANERS TO USE)

- Clean the heating elements (eye) with a grease cutting soap, all the way back to where they plug in, rinse and let dry completely before reconnecting (Do Not Soak)
- Replace drip pans with a new set (Home Depot/Walmart)
- Clean control panel and knobs with a grease cutting soap, rinse and shine with window cleaner
- For hinged cook-tops, lift and thoroughly clean underneath
- Clean grease spots from the wall above

OVEN: SELF-CLEAN OR CONTINUOUS CLEAN ONLY

- Racks may be cleaning by removing them from the oven and spraying both sides with an oven cleaner following their direction (do not leave racks in oven for self-cleaning_
- The interior surface should be cleaned by activating the self clean cycle
- Continuous clean ovens do not need to be activated
- After the cycle has run, if there are some areas that did not come clean, use SOS pads on these areas, rinse thoroughly
- DO NOT USE OVEN CLEANER ON THE INTERIOR OF THESE OVENS**

OVEN: CONVENTIONAL

- Spray the entire oven including racks with oven cleaner, following their direction, rinse thoroughly

EXTERIOR AND BOTTOM DRAWER

- Wash all exterior surfaces including the sides with a grease-cutting product, rinse and shine with cleaner
- Pull drawer completely out to clean underneath

FREE STANDING RANGES

- Pull from wall and clean sides and back as well as floor underneath

VENT HOOD

- Run filter through dishwasher (or replace if necessary)
- Degrease interior and exterior

NOTE: DON'T FORGET THE WALL BEHIND THE STOVE AND UNDER THE HOOD IS USUALLY VERY GREASY-USE A DE-GREASER

MICROWAVE

- Interior/Exterior
- Grease spots underneath and light covers
- Vents and Top



DISHWASHER

INTERIOR

- Clean interior by running wash cycle with ½ cup vinegar
- Wash rubber door seal with a mild soap and rinse
- Wash interior door with mild soap and rinse, pay special attention to the inside ledge

EXTERIOR

- Wash exterior with a grease-cutting soap, rinse and shine with window cleaner

COUNTER TOPS

- Clean counters with a non-abrasive cleaner to remove stains (Don't forget the back splash)

CABINETS AND DRAWERS

- Wash exterior with a grease cutting soap and rinse
- Thoroughly wipe out all drawers and shelves (no hairs, crumbs, etc)
- Polish exterior with wood polish
- Remove any child safety door latches

FLOORS (SEE NOTE BELOW FOR SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR CLEANING WOOD FLOORS)

- Wash floor/base boards with grease cutting soap, using a hard-bristled brush and rinse (along with the edges/corners)

NOTE: PERGO TYPE FLOORS: WASH WITH A WHITE VINEGAR SOLUTION (or 1 gallon water, 2 cup white vinegar + ½ cup isopropyl alcohol.) WOOD FLOORS: WASH WITH A MURPHY'S SOAP SOLUTION OR WHITE VINEGAR WATER.

CABINETS AND DRAWERS

- Scrub sink with Comet/Ajax, rinse and shine all parts with window cleaner, use bleach on white porcelain sinks
- Run disposal until it runs clear
- Replace Hot or Cold markers if they are missing
- Clean faucet with a grease cutting soap, you'll need a toothbrush to properly clean around the handles, and metal edges, rinse and shine with window cleaner. Pay special attention behind the faucet

BATHROOMS

BATHTUBS

- Special instructions may be applicable if you have a tub that has been re-surfaced
- Clean with Softscrub for fiberglass tubs, or a scrubbie (3M pad) for porcelain tubs, use bleach to remove stains
- Scrub the shower tile/enclosure with Comet/Ajax, rinse well; RUN YOUR HAND OVER IT TO MAKE SURE THERE IS NO REMAINING SCUM
- Use Bleach or Tilex on the grout and caulking (a toothbrush works well here)
- Clean all sides of the faucet, spout and shower head, rinse well and shine with window cleaner

SINKS

- Follow the same instructions as shown above for bathtubs
- Replace Hot or Cold markers if they are missing
- Hard to reach spots on and behind faucets

LIGHT FIXTURES

- Dust vanity bulbs
- Light covers

TOILETS

- Clean the Exterior with a sanitizing cleaner
- Clean the interior with a sanitizing cleaner, flush and add ½ cup of bleach in toilet and let stand
- Thoroughly clean around the toilet lid screws, caps and base of toilet
- YOU MAY NEED A TOOTHBRUSH AGAIN TO CLEAN THESE AREA AS WELL AS THE BASE OF THE TOILETS

OTHER FIXTURES

- Don't forget to shine towel bars and towel rings
- Toilet paper holder (remove all toilet paper)

CABINETS

- Wash exterior with a mild soap and rinse
- Thoroughly wipe out shelves and drawers
- Polish exterior with a wood polish

MIRRORS

- Clean and shine with window cleaner (leave no streaks)
Newspaper works well instead of cloth

FLOORS

- Wash floors and baseboards with a grease-cutting soap, and rinse. Pay special attention to edges corners
- Floors under appliances (washer, dryer, stove, refrigerator, etc.)

COMMON AREAS THROUGHOUT THE PROPERTY

CLOSETS

- Wipe down all shelves and rods—leave no loose debris or dust

LIGHTS FIXTURES & RELATED

- Wash all globes/covers with a grease cutting soap, rinse and shine with window cleaner
- Thoroughly clean all switch plate covers and outlet covers. If they are cracked, replace them
- Wipe top and bottom of all blades of ceiling fans
- Empty out any dead bugs
- Don't forget the exterior light by the front and back entry and garage

FIREPLACES

- Sweep out all ashes, (only when completely cooled) clean fireplace utensils and wipe down the hearth and mantel
- Clean screens and glass doors with glass cleaner-if heavily soiled might need steel wool
- Any other vents and ledges

NOTE: REMOVE ALL FIREWOOD FROM THE PROPERTY

HEATERS/VENTS & ANYTHING RELATED

- Electric Heat/Hot Water Heat: Wipe down all baseboards with soap and water
- Gas Heat—Remove all the vents, soak in warm soapy water, rinse and vacuum the heat duct (hole) then replace
- Wipe top of thermostat
- Clean all cold air returns—usually soap and water and a toothbrush do the trick

WINDOWS

- Thoroughly wash all mini blinds/verticals. We prefer you call a professional Blind Cleaning Company on this one to avoid damage from taking the blinds down. (you should be able to run your finger all the way across and get a clean-sweep)
- If your curtains have pet hair or have marks from greasy/dirty hands or excessive traffic (sliding door) it is up to you to have them cleaned or replaced with equal quality and color
- 2-inch blinds
- Clean and shine all interior sides of windows and their tracks
- Clean interior and exterior of sliding glass doors and tracks and front storm doors
- Wash all window ledges, and polish with wood polish, if applicable

DOORS INCLUDING LOUVERED DOORS

- Wash all doors, both sides including entry doors to house and garage (not the big door your car uses) with a mild soap, with special attention to the areas
- Clean all thresholds
- Interior and interior glass of storm doors
- Ledges of door panels

WOODWORK

- Wash all woodwork, mantel, banisters, railing and baseboards with grease cutting soap
- Rinse and polish with wood polish, if applicable

CHROME

- Shine all chrome: sinks, towelbars, faucets, appliance handles, paper towel and toilet paper holder, etc. with window cleaner or special chrome cleaner

LIGHTS

- Replace all burned out bulbs throughout the property, (don't forget exterior) including fluorescent in the kitchen, oven and refrigerator bulbs. Be extra careful when removing plastic deflectors or lens cover
- Only replace burned out bulbs with correct size and wattage
- We Prefer that you replace and CFL bulbs with regular incandescent light bulbs due to the potentially hazardous amounts of mercury in the CFL bulbs

WALLS

- Wipe down all walls, using special attention to the kitchen area
- Remove all cobwebs throughout
- Do not attempt to fill large holes (bigger than nail or screw). You may be billed back for improper repairs
- Do fill nail and screw holes in walls with spackle (don't worry about touching up paint in these areas)
- Re-glue any wallpaper coming up with wallpaper glue only
- Wipe top of doorbell chime cover
- Clean smudges on switch plates, tops of thermostats, alarm panels and wall mounted smoke alarms
- Wipe down all walls, using special attention to the kitchen area
- Any wall ledges

UNFINISHED BASEMENTS

- Sweep and clean as needed, don't forget light fixtures, windows, cobwebs etc

UTILITY ROOM

- Clean interior and exterior of washer and dryer and filters
- All other cleaning regarding floors, windows, lights apply as above

GARAGE

- Sweep out garage thoroughly. If your car has been dripping excessive fluids in the garage or driveway, wet the area, cover with powdered laundry soap, and let set for 2 hours and try to scrub up with an old broom. We don't expect you to remove all the stains from the concrete, only the residue
- Don't forget the windows and cobwebs in here
 - Do not remove items that go with the house; i.e. paint, etc.

PATIO/DECK

- Sweep off patio areas and/or deck
- Remove any grease that might have spilled from grills with de-greaser
- Remove all outdoor furniture-pots, etc., if they belong to you

DOORSTOPS

- Replace all broken/bent/missing doorstops

UNFINISHED BASEMENTS

THOROUGHLY VACUUM THROUGHOUT INCLUDING ALL EDGES AND HAVE A PROFESSIONAL CARPET CLEANER DO THE JOB OF CLEANING THE CARPETS

- If you have a pet, you must include an enzyme treatment or order treatment besides the regular cleaning
- Call our office for the phone number of our preferred vendors

NOTE: IF YOU USE ANOTHER CARPET CLEANING COMPANY, YOU SHOULD BE AWARE THAT IF THE JOB DOES NOT MEET OUR STANDARDS, YOU MAY BE CHARGED AGAIN. ALL CARPETS MUST BE PROFESSIONALLY CLEANED. IF A RECEIPT IS NOT PROVIDED TO OUR OFFICE AT TIME OF KEY RETURN, YOU MAY BE BILLED FOR THE SERVICE AGAIN. CARPETS MUST BE COMPLETELY DRY PRIOR TO MOVE-OUT INSPECTION, SO PLEASE GIVE AMPLE TIME.

YARDS/EXTERIOR

- Day of vacating: the yard must be freshly mowed and raked and free of pet feces. The shrubs must be trimmed neatly. Flowerbed and rocked areas must be weeded and the grounds policed for trash
- Winter – walks and driveway shoveled-free of ice and snow
- Window wells free of debris
- Hoses disconnected from the spigot
- Final clean-up on yard-remove decorative yard items (trim bushes & trees as needed)
- Remove all leaves, pine needles, dog feces and trash from yards
- Clean cobwebs from exterior and check outside lights
- Replace burned out light bulbs
- All light covers and globes must be clean and in place and free from cracks
- Replace any “CFL style” light bulbs with regular incandescent bulbs due to the potentially dangerous levels of mercury in the CFL bulbs
- Remove oil/grease stains from patios, driveways, and garage floors

SCREENS

- All screens must be in place and undamaged, this has become almost a typical charge for security deposits, if they are damaged, it is in your best interest to have them re-screened or re-framed prior to vacating the property

NOTE TO MAKE SURE:

Are all personal items removed from the property? i.e. hangers, toilet paper, cleaning supplies, magnets, pennies? If applicable, has the furnace filter been changed? Did you leave the carbon monoxide detector in the property? Is the washing machine connection turned ALL THE WAY OFF?

IN THE SUMMER

Never turn the sprinkler system off. You do not want to be financially responsible for replacing a burned up lawn.

IN THE WINTER

Never turn the thermostat all the way down or turn the system off; it must be set at 60 degrees. Do not turn off utilities in the winter. You do not want to be financially responsible for frozen, broken pipes. Arrange a final reading and that the utilities are left on in the owner's name in care of Bijou Property Management.

If you do not plan on doing your own cleaning, you must contact Bijou Property Management at least one week in advance so that we may schedule a cleaning crew as soon as you are moved out. If we are unable to move new tenants in because you did not clean the property or contact Bijou Property Management, the lost rent will be charged against your security deposit. If you leave before the end of your lease, you are still responsible for all utilities to the property, snow removal and yard work, if applicable.

Please follow the checklist carefully. Bijou Property Management is billed \$25.00 or more per hour plus supplies for maintenance and cleaning, i.e. that cracked switch plate or light bulb that normally would cost you \$1.00 will be charged \$26.00 (\$25 service call + \$1.00 for the supplies).

We use the above as our guide for the final video of your property to show for re-renting property. We don't want to keep your deposit so please use this as your check list and receive your full deposit back.

Thank you,

