



It Can Be a Perfectly Cleaned Home After All!

By Cynthia Inman, a.k.a. ASK CINDY

of-the-box clean and perfect finish?

Answer: Put on your rubber gloves — you have a process to follow. You must first clean the stainless steel surface with a neutral dish liquid soap-and-water solution. Remove all dirt build-up from a surface using a white terry cloth towel dipped into this solution (squeezed out tightly). Wipe the surface clean and then buff dry with a dry towel. Now you are ready to apply the stainless steel polisher. Gently spray a dry towel with the stainless steel polish. Wiping in the direction of the grain, watch the renewed beauty of your stainless steel appliance or surface come to life. Yes, my stainless steel coffee maker of 6 years, toaster oven of 9 years, refrigerator of 10 years, wall oven of 10 years, dishwasher of 10 years, range hood of 10 years all look like they were installed today.

2. My kitchen stone flooring looks so dull and the grout lines in the stone are so dark. Do I need a new floor?

Answer: No, your floor is dirty. First, you are going to get a dedicated mop to be used exclusively for the mopping of the kitchen floor. Label this mop with a black sharpie marker or a printed label from a labeling machine. On the mop handle it should read: kitchen only. Label or mark this on the upper part of the handle on one side and on the lower part of the handle on the opposite side. You should wear a non-slip shoe bottom for this type of wet floor work. The local hardware store has a slip on that will transform your shoe bottoms into non-slip safety shoes for this type of

wet floor work. Also, you will need a short handle grout brush, a bucket to hold water, a stone degreaser, rubber gloves and energy! After all, dirt build up requires an extra effort.

Open the windows for ventilation. Fill the bucket with warm water and the liquid stone degreaser. The amount of degreaser-to-water depends on the size of the floor area being cleaned at one time. I recommend sectioning the floor into small areas and completely finishing each area before going to the next. Be sure to follow the instructions on the cleaner for pour amounts for a given water level. Remember to always wear protective rubber gloves whenever you are handling any detergent.

Now, the real work is before us. Targeting a small floor section, dip your scrub brush into your solution and generously wet the floor. You should scrub in an up-and-down motion, stop, wipe-up and go to the next dirty section. Repeat to remove the stubborn remaining dirt. Changing your solution strength will depend on the dirt that remains on the floor. The solution should do a lot of the work for you. Once you have successfully cleaned the entire floor, scrub, wipe and clean rinse the floor with water only. Your completed floor finish should not be slippery, and all grout lines should be clean. Good old fashioned hand and knee positioning will help you go after the dirt successfully. To cushion this position, place a garden knee-pad under your knees.



The best part is all the neglect will be gone and you will never have to do this again. From this point forward, you need only to sweep or vacuum your floor, and use a few drops of liquid degreaser in your water to wash your busy kitchen floor with your dedicated kitchen mop. Edges and corners should be wiped with a towel in hand. Avoid poor vacuuming or sweeping that leaves dirt remaining in the edges and corners prior to mopping the open floor area. This leads to the thick dirt build-up which is so unsightly. This synopsis applies to any floor surface, only the cleaning detergent and cleaning technique will change with different floor surfaces.

3. How do I clean my sliding glass doors leading outside?

Answer: You will need to remove all of the dirt and pitting build-up caused from the natural elements in the

air. A two-gallon bucket half filled with warm water with six dish liquid soap drops will create the magnate solution necessary to remove the dirt and pitting from your glass. The best aluminum frame cleaner requires a tough multi-purpose cleaner. Follow the directions of your cleaner for pour and dilution amounts. Wearing rubber gloves and using my always recommended white terry cloth towels, begin to wipe the dirt from the frame. Separately, with a new cloth and just plain warm water wet wipe the entire frame. With a new cloth, completely dry your newly cleaned aluminum frame. Please do this on both sides of the door; the inside and outside. Remember, the door track with its related floor edges and corners does count and should be vacuumed prior to washing the door frame. If there is dirt build-up, you will need a tooth brush for the intricate tight areas.

Yes, I have my favorite degreaser, stainless steel cleaner and polisher, mop, grout cleaner, vacuum, multi-task liquid cleaner, angle broom, bucket, white terry-cloth towels, scrub brush, rubber gloves, and a host of ergonomic help mate tools.

It's been asked, "Where did you get this passion to clean?" My answer — It's a natural passion and I believe we are all here to contribute something! I don't tolerate dirt. It truly is my passion to help you enjoy your dwelling as well. I trust that these answers will help you achieve a perfectly clean home. More to come....

EL076509

(MS) — Through my Ask Cindy detail vision I will guide you through a few "six star," * * * * *, cleaning approaches. This question and answer survey will surely address unsightly areas in your home. You'll notice, I referenced "six star" approaches. We decorate and accessorize with "six star" acquisitions for our dwellings. After all, we are deliberately influenced by T.V. décor shows, perfect design consultants, magazine how to, the Joneses, etc. Everything looks great but how do we keep it looking that way? In a perfect world we would think about the maintenance prior to the acquisition. But in our busy world we see the dirt build up and then panic for an answer.

Now, here is where I come in with www.askcindyhow.com. I can address all unsightly, dirt accumulation/build-up on surfaces, accessories, furnishings and gently used "hand me downs" in one's home. I like all items and surfaces to look just like a perfectly organized, clean movie set. An uncluttered, clean environment allows air to flow and we are energized by it. This energizes us in a positive way, uplifting our thoughts, aspirations and our interactions with others. So here we go!

1. Why doesn't my stainless steel cleaner and polisher give me that out-