

# Cleaning

Everyone has their own style and standards of cleaning. Before we get started on this hot topic, have a quick think about your standards. In order of obsessive compulsive (10 – am getting counselling for my dirt intolerance), right down to 'piggish', (1 – with a gun at my head, I'm a great cleaner), my level of desired cleanliness in the house is (circle):

1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10

## Cleaning schedule & responsibilities

There are jobs you do daily, jobs you do several times a week and jobs you do weekly, monthly, quarterly and annually. For example, on a daily basis, dishes need to be done after every meal (if they're washed right away, then it's much easier and faster than trying to clean encrusted dishes). If everything is put away in its proper place once a day, then it usually only takes 10 minutes. Leave it until the end of the week and this 10 minutes turns into an hour. Laundry is another area that is far more manageable if done several times a week than leaving it all to the weekend. On the other hand, window cleaning is something that only needs doing once a quarter.

The key to getting it all done is to break down all the jobs. A little bit every day is the key to making light work of the housework. List your activities and then put it in a central location where everyone in the house can see which chores they need to do for the week. Put the chores in your diary, for easy reference – this principle applies to everything else in the home – if it's not in your diary, it probably won't happen.

Kitchens and bathrooms are the most important day to day cleaning areas. The rest of the mess you can shut the door on. Try to delegate some of the jobs to other household members so that it is a cooperative effort. Rotate the jobs so that everyone has a go at different household jobs.

## Daily Housework Schedule

The following jobs need to be done daily or several times a week.

Cleaning activity	Day(s)	Person responsible
	<input type="checkbox"/>	

