

House Cleaning Tips

How to Clean a Burned Pot: To clean a badly scorched pot, boil water in a different pot. Cover the burned area of the first pot with baking soda. Then carefully pour in enough of the boiling hot water to half fill the burned pot. Let it sit. When the water is cool enough to touch, use a sponge and scrub the bottom with the water and baking soda. Dump out the pot then wash it with hot, soapy water.

How to Clean a Sink: The sink and faucet need to be wiped down with an all-purpose cleaner every time you cook. Bacteria and food particles can gather and make you sick. We touch those places with raw food on our hands!

How to Clean a Sponge: If you use a sponge to wipe counters or wash dishes, you need to clean it every day or two. You can put it in the dishwasher or put it in the microwave! If you put it in the microwave, make sure first that it doesn't contain any metal. Then get it very wet and heat it for 2 minutes in a microwave-safe plate or bowl. Careful, because it will be very hot when you take it out!

How to clean a stovetop: You will need a tough cleaner to handle baked-on splatter and grease from the stovetop. A non-scratch scrubbing sponge and a powder cleanser will get off stubborn messes. If you are cleaning stainless steel, scrub with the grain instead of in a circle so it doesn't scratch. Don't push down too hard, but allow the cleaner to do the work. Then you won't scratch the stovetop.

How to clean small appliances: Small appliances like toasters and coffee makers that sit on the counter can get dirty from cooking. Grease and food can splatter onto them. They need to be wiped down every week with an all-purpose cleaner. To clean deeper, take off all the pieces you can and wash them or put them in the dishwasher. You can also use an old toothbrush or cotton swabs to get into cracks and tight corners that are hard to clean.

How to Clean Spills in the Refrigerator: When sticky spills happen in the fridge or pantry, it needs to be cleaned quickly. Soak a sponge or rag in very hot water (don't burn your hands!) and squeeze it out so that it's not dripping. Then, press it onto the sticky spot until the rag starts to cool. If the sticky spill has loosened up, wipe it away. If it's still too sticky, repeat as needed until you can wipe it clean.