

# CLEANING YOUR APPLIANCES

## A How-to Guide from MOLLY MAID

Our household appliances work hard for us on a daily basis with little TLC in return! Here's how to clean and maintain some of the most important pieces of equipment in your home...

Before carrying out any of our tips, we recommend checking the manufacturer's advice!

### FRIDGE & FREEZER



#### Remove food

Bin anything that's no longer safe to consume, and dispose of frozen items that are freezer-burned or older than six months.

#### Turn off the power

Leave the doors open and defrost. Use a towel to absorb the water as the ice melts. If you want to speed the process up, add a couple of bowls of boiling water and shut the door – but be careful not to burn yourself.

#### Clean and remove odours

Use warm water in combination with white vinegar to wipe inside. Leave detachable parts to soak in a bowl of warm water containing a cup of white vinegar. Remove odours with a mixture of water and bicarbonate of soda.

#### Dry

Using kitchen towel. Replace the drawers and shelves after drying them first.

### IRON



#### Create a paste

Make sure the iron is cold and unplugged. Then, apply a paste of one tablespoon of water and two tablespoons of bicarbonate of soda. Use a spatula to spread it across the iron's plate, paying attention to the areas that have mineral deposits. Let it sit for ten minutes before wiping it away with a damp cloth.

#### Remove stagnant water

Pour out water from the iron's reservoir. Then, if the steam holes are blocked, dip a cotton bud that's been drenched in distilled water. (You can buy distilled water, or collect it from some types of tumble dryers).

#### Flush out deposits

Fill the iron's reservoir with distilled water until it's 1/3 full, adding 1/4 of a cup of white vinegar. Turn the iron on and let it heat up to its highest setting. Once it's reached top temperature, steam-iron a clean cloth for a few minutes to flush out deposits from the steam holes. Switch the iron off, let it cool completely and then pour out the remaining water.

### DISHWASHER



#### Remove detachable parts

Fill up a bowl of lukewarm water and add a two cups of white vinegar. Remove any detachable parts of your dishwasher (such as the cutlery holder, or any wheels and shelves), pop them in the bowl to soak for an hour.

#### Remove debris

Look at the spinning arms of the dishwasher. Remove any debris from the holes using a toothpick or a soft-bristle toothbrush so that water can continue passing through properly. Then, remove the filter from the dishwasher and pick out anything that shouldn't be there. Run the filter under the tap so that it looks as good as new.

#### Run a cycle

Then, place a cup of vinegar on the bottom rack. Put a small bowl of baking soda on the top rack. Run the dishwasher on a normal cycle.

#### Wipe down

Once the cycle has finished, keep the door shut for an additional half an hour so that the steam inside can continue cleaning the dishwasher. Finally, wipe the inside of the dishwasher down using cloth or kitchen towel.

### VACUUM CLEANER



#### Check the air filter

It may have a build up of dust and fluff (in the same way that tumble dryers and hair dryers do). Use a small, soft brush to wipe away the fluff, and give it a rinse under running water every month.

#### Remove blockages

If the hose of your vacuum cleaner detaches into parts, detach each component and check there's nothing obstructing the airflow. Remove blockages and clumps of things like hair.

#### Check the head

The brush is likely to be holding onto hair and debris, so pull it all out. If it's difficult to remove, you might need scissors to carefully snip the hair before pulling it out in stages. If you have multiple heads for different uses, clean each one.

#### Empty

Finally, if the bag or canister is full, empty it out. An overly full bag will reduce the effectiveness of the vacuum cleaner, and could do damage if you leave it for too long.

### WASHING MACHINE



#### Prep the machine

Add a quarter of a cup of baking soda to a quarter of a cup of cold water. Mix it up, and pour it into the tray where you'd normally add your detergent. Then, add two whole cups of white vinegar to the drum itself.

#### Place the machine on its highest setting

This is usually 60 degrees Celsius, though you can use a higher temperature setting if your model offers one. Running it at a high temperature with the baking soda and vinegar will clean out the pipes and drum to make sure residue and limescale disappears.

#### Clean with a sponge

Once the cycle has finished, use a sponge with a scratchy surface to clean around the washing machine door and the detergent tray, getting rid of any limescale and residue.

Need some help with your cleaning?  
We're always happy to help, call us on

**0800 377 7507**

  
**MOLLY MAID**