



## Hello, Friends!

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June 2020 - Cleaning Mistakes

I recently came across an article while getting ideas for newsletter topics. I found this article written by Steffany Sisco in the November, 2014 issue of "Real Simple." I knew right away I've been guilty of many of these myself. Here are the best ones we've probably all been guilty of:

1. Placing your utensils facing all the same way. Remember, spoons can spoon one another and therefore never get truly cleaned.
2. Washing windows on a sunny day. I didn't know that washing windows in direct sunlight leaves more streaks. I usually wash my windows when it's hot outside because it's my excuse to get a little sun as I enjoy the nice weather. Now I'll know better.
3. Spraying cleaner directly on the surface. It's a better habit to spray any cleaner on the cloth and then spread it on the item you are cleaning. (I knew that, but I often forget to do it!)
4. Wearing gloves while cleaning. I know I'm definitely guilty of not using gloves every time. But gloves protect in several ways. The author recommends the Playtex living drip-catch gloves at about \$3 per pair.
5. Treating liquid stains on carpet. Blot the carpet quickly with a towel and soak up as much as you can. Then grab some club soda or ice water and treat the stain with it. Now, blot the carpet again. If the stain is stubborn, repeat the process.
6. This is something I've never done: let your toilet brush air dry between uses. The experts agree to place the handle between the toilet seat and bowl and let the brush drip into the bowl for about 10 minutes. My friend Silvia even recommends buying a kitchen brush instead of using toilet brushes that don't seem to last as long.
7. Sanitizing your sponges (another thing I seldom do). Place your sponges on the top rack of your dishwasher during a full cycle or for 2 minutes in the microwave. I guess I seldom do this because I have a different type of dish brush, where I replace its head frequently.
8. Finally, the author recommends this tip: before you drag your vacuum out to pick up all that dog and cat hair or big spills, use a broom or swiffer dry sheet to grab most of the stuff. Then plug in and use your vacuum.

Those are my "recommended fixes." Do you have any great tips to pass along? You are welcome to share yours with me here anytime and I'll post them on my Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/logicalplacementorganizing>.

Hope you and your family are still staying safe and healthy.

Your local professional organizer,  
Betty Huotari

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