

SPECIAL REPORT

7 Steps to Cleaner Windows

By Tyler Kirk

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Washing your own windows may not be top of your to-do list... but it certainly adds some sparkle to your day once they are done! You should have your windows cleaned at least twice a year... more is better if you are in heavy traffic or dust areas.

Fall and spring are perfect for cleaning off the window muck.

If you are doing this yourself, try and schedule the time of day for cleaning to be done in the shade. Too much sun on your windows while you clean can dry too quickly and may cause streaks.

7 Steps to Cleaner Windows

- 1) **Get all your supplies ready before you start cleaning.** You need: a large bucket, warm water, a good quality window squeegee, dishwashing liquid, some lint free cloths for drying, and a cloth rag or decent sponge.
- 2) **Wash the insides of windows first.** The outsides will dirty your tools and water much faster.
- 3) **Put a small squirt of dishwashing liquid in a bucket of warm water** — the less suds, the better. Wet your cleaning rag or sponge in the soap mix, squeeze out the excess and start washing the window from the outside in, using circular movements.
- 4) **Use the squeegee and start in one of the top corners of the window, The easiest way to use a squeegee is to go in one direction only:** in vertical strokes or horizontal... only one way at a time. Wipe the rubber blade of the squeegee with the lint free cloth after every stroke. Try vertical on one window, then horizontal on the next. Angle the squeegee with the upper side towards the wet side of the window. This will prevent

the solution leaving a line of soap on the previously cleaned part. Whichever feels more natural to you... stick with it. It'll get easier. Wipe any leftover drips from the sides and bottom with the cloth rag.

- 5) **Difficult residue on your windows that won't come off?** Try this. Mix in a squirt of dishwasher liquid in some warm water. Scrub (not too hard) the glass using a fine piece of steel wool (grade 0000) then squeegee off the mixture using the instructions above.
- 6) **Still have ugly film you can't get rid of?** Get a razor blade type of scraper and go over your entire window first with the scraper first. Then go back through steps 3 and 4 from above. This usually fixes the most difficult of dirty windows. Make sure the window is soapy wet when using the razor. This will eliminate drag and further reduce chances that it will scratch the window.
- 7) If there are still streaks after following these steps, you need to use your lint-free cloth to wipe it down a little bit. You may also need to re-clean the window more than once, especially if it has been some time since your last cleaning. Make sure the cloth is dry as it can be. A slightly damp cloth will leave streaks that may show up later.
- 8) **BONUS IDEA:** Don't open your windows much? Leave your window screens off. Screens keep the sun and bugs out, but will get your windows dirty quicker.

Last, if you really don't want to go through this work every other month, call us! After cleaning well over 90,000 windows... we know what we are doing. We have specials available for our first time clients, and we guarantee you will get the cleanest windows ever.

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2. **We've been serving your community for over 4 years,** and have developed an outstanding reputation with your neighbors for professional and courteous service.

*“Just wanted to let you know how pleased we were with the job that your guys did. They were **quick, professional, and very personable**-in light of the sweat pouring down their faces. I have just sent out an email to my friends with your web site on it. Thanks again.”* Carol Sharkey, Charlotte Challis Farms

3. **There’s no obligation or charge to have us out and look at your windows.** We give you an honest estimate on what it will take to get crystal clean windows by the best cleaners in town.
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