



# Speed Up Your Clean Routine

Forget elbow grease. These expert tips, innovative products, and clever gadgets can help you spiff up your home in no time—there's even a mop that'll wipe the floor for you!

## Save time in the *KITCHEN*

### GRANITE COUNTERTOP

Linda Cobb, author of *The Queen of Clean* housekeeping books, raves about **CLR Stone Cleaner** (\$6; shopclr.com). "It's amazing," she says. Instead of scrubbing granite down with soap and hot water to remove stuck-on grime, a simple spray and wipe with CLR will shine your counters in seconds.

### OVEN

If your casserole runneth over while baking, sprinkle a generous amount of **salt** on the spill immediately, recommends Kadi Dulude, owner of

Wizard of Homes, a New York cleaning service. "It minimizes the burning smell and makes it easier to wipe off once the oven cools down."

### STAINLESS-STEEL SINK

It's a home-bar essential, but **club soda** will also shine up your stainless-steel sink in half the time of a powder cleanser, says cleaning pro Joey Green, author of *Joey Green's Cleaning Magic*. A club soda containing sodium bicarbonate, like Canada Dry, acts as a solvent and leaves behind no residue. Saturate a soft, clean cloth and wipe well.



## Save time in the *LIVING/DINING ROOM*

### BASEBOARDS

Woodwork and door frames can be difficult and time-consuming to swab. Enter the aptly named **Baseboard Buddy** (\$19; baseboardbuddy.com). With a nylon pad that attaches to an adjustable handle, this smart tool lets you "stand up and fly through this tiresome job," says Cobb.

### CHANDELIER OR CEILING FAN

Take your vacuum to new heights with the **Vaccuflex** (\$15; vaccuflex.com), a set of four flexible tubes that attach directly to your machine. The added length allows you to really get at hard-to-reach ceiling fixtures, says Cobb.

### LAMP SHADE

Forget hauling out the vacuum to remove dust from unpleated lamp

shades. Just swipe a **lint roller** over the surface, says Julie Edelman, author of *The Ultimate Accidental Housewife*. Bonus tip: The roller is also great at plucking crumbs off countertops.

### WINDOWS

The next time you wipe them down, finish up with a coat of **Rain-X** (\$7; sears.com), says Green. It prevents dirt from adhering to glass—and you from having to do windows as frequently.

### FORGO THE FEATHERS

Reach for a duster made of lambswool, not plumage, says Cobb. It contains natural lanolin, which attracts dirt, washes easily, and lasts for years.



Lambswool duster with extendable pole, Williams-Sonoma, \$50; williams-sonoma.com.