Kept Shiny

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Spring Cleaning Checklist

30 tasks across 5 zones take about 10 h 25 min total. Start in the kitchen and work toward Utility and outdoor areas, the longest zone at 2 h 45 min.

Kitchen — 1 h 55

- [ ] **Clear and wipe cabinet fronts** — 15 min
  Wipe doors and handles with warm water and a few drops of dish soap on a cloth.
- [ ] **Clean inside the refrigerator** — 30 min
  Remove shelves and drawers, wash them in warm soapy water, and wipe interior walls with a damp cloth.
- [ ] **Degrease the stovetop and oven exterior** — 20 min
  Spray a degreasing dish soap solution, let it sit for 5 minutes, then wipe clean with a damp cloth.
- [ ] **Descale the faucet and sink** — 15 min
  Soak a cloth in white vinegar and wrap it around the faucet head for 10 minutes, then wipe and rinse.
  > Avoid using vinegar on any stone or stone-look composite sink; use a pH-neutral cleaner instead.
- [ ] **Sanitize countertops** — 15 min
  Wash with dish soap and water, rinse, then wipe with a diluted bleach solution of 1 tablespoon bleach per gallon of water.
  > Never mix bleach with any other cleaning product; rinse the surface fully before applying it.
- [ ] **Mop the kitchen floor** — 20 min
  Vacuum crumbs first, then mop with warm water and a floor cleaner suited to your flooring type.

Bathrooms — 1 h 50

- [ ] **Scrub the tub and shower tile** — 25 min
  Apply a bathroom cleaner, let it sit 5 minutes, then scrub with a non-abrasive brush and rinse.
- [ ] **Descale showerheads and faucets** — 35 min
  Soak removable fixtures in a bowl of white vinegar for 30 minutes, then rinse and buff dry.
  > Do not use vinegar on natural stone tile or fixtures; use a pH-neutral cleaner instead.
- [ ] **Disinfect the toilet** — 15 min
  Scrub inside the bowl with a toilet brush and cleaner, then wipe the exterior and base with a diluted bleach solution.
  > Rinse the brush and let the bowl sit empty before adding bleach solution to avoid splashing.
- [ ] **Clean the mirror and glass** — 10 min
  Spray with a vinegar-water solution and wipe dry with a lint-free cloth for a streak-free finish.
- [ ] **Wash bath mats and shower curtain** — 10 min
  Launder machine-washable mats and curtains in warm water with regular detergent.
- [ ] **Mop the bathroom floor** — 15 min
  Sweep first, then mop with warm water and a floor cleaner, paying attention to corners and grout lines.

Living areas — 2 h

- [ ] **Dust ceiling fans and light fixtures** — 15 min
  Use an extendable duster or a damp cloth on a pole to wipe blades and fixture surfaces.
- [ ] **Vacuum upholstery and cushions** — 20 min
  Use the upholstery attachment to remove dust and debris from sofas, chairs, and cushions.
- [ ] **Wipe down baseboards and trim** — 20 min
  Wipe with a damp microfiber cloth and a small amount of dish soap solution to remove dust buildup.
- [ ] **Clean windows and sills** — 25 min
  Wash glass with a vinegar-water solution and wipe sills with a damp cloth.
- [ ] **Dust and wipe electronics screens** — 10 min
  Wipe TV and computer screens with a dry microfiber cloth, using it slightly damp only if needed.
  > Avoid spraying any liquid cleaner directly on screens, as it can damage the display.
- [ ] **Vacuum and spot-treat carpets or rugs** — 30 min
  Vacuum thoroughly, then treat visible stains with a carpet cleaner following the product's contact time.

Bedrooms and closets — 1 h 55

- [ ] **Wash bedding and pillows** — 15 min
  Launder sheets, pillowcases, and machine-washable pillows in warm water according to the care label.
- [ ] **Flip or rotate the mattress** — 10 min
  Turn the mattress end to end or flip it if the manufacturer allows, to even out wear.
- [ ] **Sort and declutter closets** — 40 min
  Remove items you no longer wear and group the rest by category for easier access.
- [ ] **Vacuum closet floors and shelves** — 15 min
  Use a vacuum attachment to clear dust and debris from shelves, floors, and corners.
- [ ] **Dust dressers and nightstands** — 15 min
  Wipe surfaces with a damp microfiber cloth, moving lamps and decor items to reach underneath.
- [ ] **Wash windows and curtains** — 20 min
  Launder machine-washable curtains and clean glass with a vinegar-water solution.

Utility and outdoor areas — 2 h 45

- [ ] **Clean the washing machine drum** — 1 h
  Run an empty hot cycle with a scoop of oxygen bleach to remove residue and odor.
  > Do not add liquid chlorine bleach to this cycle if the oxygen bleach is still in the drum.
- [ ] **Wipe down the dryer lint trap and vent opening** — 10 min
  Remove lint buildup by hand and wipe the trap with a dry cloth.
  > A clogged dryer vent is a fire risk, so clear lint fully before running another load.
- [ ] **Clean PVC pipe fixtures under sinks** — 10 min
  Wipe exterior pipe surfaces with a cloth dampened in hot tap water and a little dish soap.
  > Avoid pouring boiling water on PVC pipes, as it can warp or weaken the plastic.
- [ ] **Sweep and hose down the porch or patio** — 20 min
  Sweep loose debris first, then rinse the surface with a hose and scrub brush if needed.
- [ ] **Clean outdoor trash and recycling bins** — 20 min
  Rinse bins with a hose, scrub with dish soap and water, and let them air dry.
- [ ] **Check and clean gutters** — 45 min
  Remove leaves and debris by hand or scoop, working from a stable ladder.
  > Have someone hold the ladder steady, since gutter work carries a fall risk.