

Preparing for an inspection

The information below can help you prepare for your next inspection.



Walls, floors, doors, cupboards and wardrobes

Check walls, floors, doors, cupboards and wardrobes are not in an unreasonably dirty condition.

TIP 1: Remove marks and dirt with a damp cloth when you see it. This will make preparing for an inspection quicker.



Bathrooms, toilets and laundry

Sweep then mop all tiled areas. Scrub the toilet with a toilet brush and disinfectant. Clean taps, benches and laundry tub with a cloth.

TIP 4: Clean toilet bowls with flat Coke or Pepsi to get them looking shiny and clean. To dissolve lime scale, apply the flat Pepsi or Coke and leave to soak overnight.



Kitchen stove, grill and oven

Clean the areas on and around the kitchen stove, grill and oven. Include hot plates, drip trays and areas behind the stove.

TIP 2: A cheap and easy way to remove oil, grease and fats is with $\frac{1}{4}$ cup of white vinegar mixed with 1 cup of water. Spray mixture and wipe off with a cloth.



Ceiling fans and exhaust fans

Clean ceiling fan blades often with a damp cloth. Remove covers on exhaust fans before cleaning.

TIP 5: After the first clean, cover fan blades with stockings, also known as pantyhose. When you have to clean the fans again, wash the stockings in a washing machine and put them back on the fan blades.



Light fittings, power points, switches and controls

Dust and wipe down light fittings, power points, switches and controls.

TIP 3: Use the mixture of white vinegar and water from Tip 2 to clean light fittings, power points, switches and controls. Spray mixture and wipe off with a cloth.



Windows

Clean window sills, tracks, fly screens and glass from dirt and dust build up. Start with inside of windows before moving outside.

TIP 6: Add $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon of liquid soap to the cleaning mixture described in Tip 2, for a stronger solution for windows.



Cobwebs

Remove cobwebs on ceilings, walls, around windows and doors. Also check inside and outside your house or unit for cobwebs.

TIP 7: The easiest way to remove cobwebs is with a duster or clean broom. This will save you time when it comes to reaching for cobwebs on the ceiling. You can usually buy these from your local store.



External areas

Keep all areas outside the house clear of rubbish. Keep any plants, gardens and fences tidy.

TIP 8: Keep grass tidy; garden beds and plants trimmed. Getting rid of any items that you will not use again will make your yard appear uncluttered and well maintained.

Cleaning DO's



Cleaning cloths

To make sure germs are not spread around the house, always use different cleaning cloths for the kitchen, bathroom, floor and walls.



Get everyone to help

Give every person one task to do. This will make cleaning quicker, so you can get back to more fun things in life.



General cleaning products

Make sure harmful, poisonous products are kept high and out of reach of children.



Report any damages

If you see any damage, let the department know right away by calling the maintenance call centre on 1800 104 076.



White vinegar and bi-carb soda

Mixing white vinegar or bi-carb soda with water are good cleaning options compared to harsh chemicals. They are cheap to buy and safe to use.

Where can I find more information?

Contact your local Housing office or visit tfhc.nt.gov.au.

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|-------------------|----------------|------------|----------------|
| Greater Darwin | (08) 8999 8814 | Big Rivers | (08) 8973 8513 |
| Arnhem | (08) 8987 0533 | Barkly | (08) 8962 4497 |
| Central Australia | (08) 8951 5344 | Top End | (08) 8995 5122 |