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Spring into Action: Get Your Kitchen Clean Again

Follow these tips from Mr. Appliance® for a sparkling kitchen

WACO, Texas (March 23, 2009) – It's time to come out of hibernation. Spring is officially here, and with it comes warmer weather, brighter days and the realization that winter weather has left your home in need of some serious cleaning.

"Don't neglect your kitchen appliances during spring cleaning," said Doug Rogers, president of Mr. Appliance Corp. "Your appliances never get a day off. They take the most abuse, yet probably get the least attention. Keep them clean to help them last longer and run more efficiently."

Follow these simple tips from *Mr. Appliance* to give your kitchen new life and make your appliances shine.

Refrigerator

- Wipe down walls and soak removable parts in the sink with warm, soapy water to remove stains and lumps from food spills. Don't use bleach or other harsh cleansers that can damage surfaces.
- To eliminate odors, pour some vanilla extract into a bowl with a paper towel. Don't use products with a citrus scent – the fragrance can become absorbed by the plastic and never leave.
- Don't forget to clean the coils. Unplug the refrigerator and pull it away from the wall. Use a vacuum wand or brush to gently clean any dust off of the coils. This will help save you energy and money.

Stove

- Electric Burners: Wipe food off burners when they're cold. If residue remains, turn on exhaust fan, turn burners on high and let the food burn off. For melted plastic, scrape off with a wooden spoon while coils are warm.
- Gas Burners: Wash porcelain-coated pans and grates by hand unless otherwise recommended by the manufacturer. Dishwasher detergent can promote rusting – instead, soak and then rub with a scouring pad.
- Glass Cooking Surfaces: Only use cleaners recommended by the manufacturer and never use abrasive cloths or sponges to prevent scratching.

Oven

- If you run your oven's self-cleaning cycle, remember to open doors and windows to help with ventilation.
- Remove the oven racks and wash them by hand unless the owner's manual specifically states they are dishwasher-safe. Oven racks left in the oven during self-cleaning will over-heat and turn blue.

Microwave Oven

- If warm, soapy water isn't enough, wipe the interior surfaces with a mixture of two tablespoons baking soda and one quart water. For stubborn residue and stains, heat a microwave-safe bowl of water for three minutes, then wipe down surfaces.

Dishwasher

- Run the dishwasher empty with a cup of white vinegar to eliminate odors and food residue buildup.

Surfaces

- To stop the yellowing process of white appliances, mix one-half cup of bleach, one-quarter cup of baking soda and four cups of warm water. Apply with a sponge and let it set for 10 minutes. Rinse and dry thoroughly.

Additional cleaning and maintenance tips are available on www.mrappliance.com. If you come across an appliance issue cleaning can't fix, call your local appliance repair expert for help.

About Mr. Appliance®:

Mr. Appliance® is North America's leading appliance repair franchise system. Established in 1996, its franchises provide full-service residential and light commercial appliance repair. Mr. Appliance has more than 140 locations throughout the United States and Canada and is consistently ranked among the top home service franchises by Entrepreneur magazine and other industry experts. Mr. Appliance is a subsidiary of The Dwyer Group, Inc. For more information, visit www.mrappliance.com.

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