

DESIGN

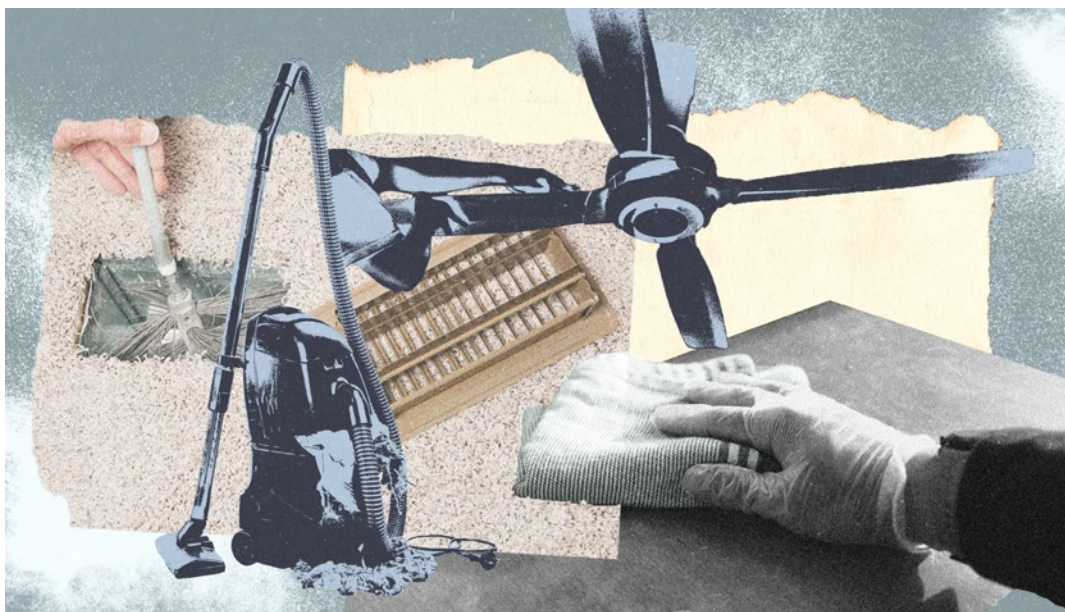
How to remove dust from all surfaces in your home

Knowing how to remove dust is no longer just for experts, apply these tricks to banish dirt and filth.

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Ellie Schiltz / Getty Images

How to remove dust if it can be almost poetic - a dust on the cheeks or a snowfall on the trees -; but the **daily need for how to remove dust** is not. Domestic dust is made up of the detritus of our daily life and of ourselves: dirt, particles of soil, contaminants, dead skin cells, hair, dandruff from domestic animals, insect bits, dust mites, clothing fibers and even microplastics that are deposited on furniture, on carpets and curtains or on lamps and fans. The dust contains contaminants and chemicals from the objects of our homes, so it is important to remove the dust and clean it in the right way.

But **knowing how to remove dust** is more than dancing with a duster. It is a cleaning task that many people do incorrectly, according to expert Jeri Fritz, founder and owner of Highland Park Housekeeping in Dallas: "The wrong way to remove the dust is to start with the surface you see first, such as the dresser or the shelf," he says. "The right thing to clean from top to bottom, including the ventilation grilles, the ceiling fan, the lamps and the works of art, because as soon as the heating or air conditioning is turned on, all the dust is spread."

And don't start just above the room; start above the house. The co-founder of Koala Eco, Jessica Bragdon, says: "It is always better to start with the upper rooms and send the dust and disorder down," and always vacuum the dust that is deposited on the floor afterwards. Keeping the house well dusted is important for your health and that of your family, and will make your house look clean, even if you still have to mess up one or two rooms. Here are some points you should address to remove dust from your house.



The founder of VGZ Arquitectura, Verónica González, highlights the comfort and ventilation in the environmentally conscious design of CC48. Rafael Gamo

1. Ventilation grilles

Check the ventilation grilles and, if you see a lot of dust, get on a ladder and use a portable vacuum cleaner with the round brush accessory to remove 99% of the dust from the grille. Fritz recommends a Miele vacuum cleaner or a high-quality vacuum cleaner with a HEPA filter and a round brush. I would always recommend bamboo rags or cloths instead of paper towels, both for economic reasons and to have a positive impact on the environment," says Bragdon. "And it is preferable to use natural fiber cloths, since synthetic microfiber cloths can release small non-biodegradable fibers that end up in our waterways." For spring cleaning once a year, or if you feel very motivated, unscrew the ventilation grille and remove the dust from it. If your ventilation grilles are close to the ground, dust them last.

2. Ceiling fans

They have to be cleaned once a month, but not with a Swiffer duster or duster: "Swiffer pads contain chemicals, and most dusters are cheap and only move the dust," says Fritz. Instead, trust the inexpensive microfiber cloths from Amazon Basic. Get on a ladder and clean the blades with a damp microfiber cloth. In between, you can use one of the dusters with the sticks that bend to form an angle of 90 degrees.



3. Curtain cornices, lampshades and headboards

Lampshades can be frustrating to clean because the dust rolls up. The same goes for the cornices of the curtains and the fabric headboards. To prevent the dust from accumulating, Fritz advises first vacuuming with a clean brush and then passing a damp microfiber cloth over the surface every few weeks. For furniture and home decoration with nooks and crooks, invest in a brush to remove dust that can reach the cracks.

4. Curtains and blinds

Vacuum blinds and curtains with the soft brush accessory of a high-quality vacuum cleaner. Be sure to run the brush over the borders, curtains or folds, as well as behind the curtains or blinds. Next, pass a dry or damp cloth to give the last review. If you have wooden blinds, instead of using water in the cloth, spray it with a wood brightener and then clean each slat individually.



Tyiko

5. Bookstores and books

Remove everything from the shelves, moisten a clean microfiber towel in hot water and drain it to clean the shelves and the loins and covers of the books. Use the vacuum cleaner brush to get to the narrowest places. To remove the dust, use a natural bristle brush to reach the cracks between the backs and at the top of the books. Don't forget the top of the shelf, where dust tends to accumulate.

6. Kitchen cabinets and refrigerator top

According to Fritz, this is one of the rooms that people forget to clean. The top of the refrigerator and the cabinets above the kitchen is where the dust is mixed with the grease and sticks. The accumulation can be difficult to clean. You can use soap and hot water to clean them regularly. Cleaning cloths can also help, since they trap dirt in the cloth mesh. Biodegradable wipes can be the anonymous hero of your kitchen.



The drawers allow for privacy. Tina Witherspoon / Unsplash.

7. Wooden furniture

In most cases, you can clean all wooden furniture with a clean microfiber towel. The concentrated multipurpose cleaner can be diluted in water and used in wooden coffee tables, dining rooms and everything else. Alternatively, the mild dishwasher liquid, also diluted in water, works as a natural brightener for your wooden furniture. To feed the wood, you will need a light oil. A small amount of avocado oil will treat and nourish your wood, according to Fritz.

8. Soft furniture and upholstery

Take the cushions outside and hit them gently with your hand to remove the dust. If there are stains, check the care labels before proceeding. Use the specialized tools in upholstery and slits of your vacuum cleaner to clean under the seat cushions. Or try this TikTok trick that uses a pot lid wrapped in a microfiber cloth. Prepare a hot water solution, then moisten the cloth and wrap the lid. Move the cover from one side to the other over the upholstery of the sofa. For a deep dust cleaning approach, clean the sofa with steam (after vacuuming the debris) for a finish like new.



Paola Navone

9. Skirting boards

First vacuum the sockets with the round brush accessory, since it will collect most of the dust and remove the dirt. Next, use a damp microfiber cloth or a mitt to remove the dust. Consider cleaning the dust from the baseboards at least once a week, as they tend to accumulate dirt quickly, especially if you have ventilation grilles on the floors.

10. Indoor plants

Believe it or not, the dust on the leaves of your fern or fig tree not only gives a bad appearance, but can make photosynthesis difficult. These particles block sunlight, which can affect the growth and general health of the plant. To remove dust from your plants, gently clean the leaves with a towel and warm water. Or, if you can move the plant, place it in the kitchen sink or in the shower and spray it with a nozzle, using low-pressure water. From now on, keep dust and dirt at bay by regularly spraying your [indoor plants](#) with a sprayer.



If you don't have much space, petite plants are ideal to complement your decoration. [freddie marriage / Unsplash](#)

11. ELECTRONICS

The good news is that, thanks to smart TVs and *streaming*, most of us no longer have DVD players or disc stacks in our multimedia consoles accumulating dirt. But those smart TVs still need dust. Use a microfiber cloth to clean gently, first horizontally and then vertically. If you still see dirt sticking, use a cleaning solution that is safe for LED and LCD screens. Spray the solution on the clean cloth, never directly on the TV, and rub gently. This cleaning method also works on portable screens and tablets.

12. Beds

You are not the only one who is attracted to your mattress that is not too firm, not too soft, too tempting. Dust mites also love to delight here, and these microscopic pests can wreak havoc on your allergies. To limit your exposure, wash the sheets every one or two weeks. Then, once a month, use an upholstery accessory and vacuum the mattress while the bed is unsheded. Be sure to vacuum not only the top, but also the sides, the bed base and the bed frame. A mattress protector can help keep the dust mites away from dust and give you greater peace of mind while you sleep in your dust-free home.