

Move-In and Move-Out Cleaning Checklist

The rooms to clean before handover, and the walkthrough the other side will actually do. Print it, work top to bottom, and photograph each finished room.

Before you start

Empty first. A move-out clean is faster and better on a bare room.

- ☐ Empty every room completely, including closets, cupboards and shelves.
- ☐ Gather an all-purpose cleaner, a kitchen degreaser and a bathroom cleaner for soap scum and hard water.
- ☐ Add glass cleaner, plenty of microfibre cloths and some old cloths you can throw away.
- ☐ Have a vacuum with attachments, a mop, a bucket and a grout brush ready.
- ☐ Add a toilet brush, scrub brushes and a scraper for stubborn marks.
- ☐ Keep bags for rubbish and a box for anything you are leaving behind.
- ☐ Check the lease or the agreement for anything the handover specifically names.

Kitchen

The oven and the fridge are the first two places an inspection looks.

- ☐ Degrease the stovetop and the backsplash, and clean the oven inside and out.
- ☐ Wipe every shelf in the fridge, then clean the microwave inside and out.
- ☐ Clean the sink, taps and counters, and wipe inside and outside every cabinet.
- ☐ Wipe the range hood and its filter.
- ☐ Pull out the fridge and stove, clean behind and underneath, then sweep the floor there.
- ☐ Empty and wipe the bin, and take the rubbish out the same day.

Bathrooms

Soap scum and hard water build up quickly and are the most common deduction.

- ☐ Remove soap scum and hard-water stains from the shower, tub and glass.
- ☐ Clean the toilet inside and out, including the base and behind it.
- ☐ Scrub the grout and tile, and treat any spot of mildew.
- ☐ Polish the mirror, taps and fixtures, and wipe the vanity inside and out.
- ☐ Clean the exhaust fan cover and the vent.
- ☐ Wipe the light switches, handles and the back of the door.

Bedrooms, living areas and floors

Work high to low so nothing falls onto a surface you have finished.

- ☐ Dust and wipe light fixtures, vents, window sills and the tops of cabinets.
- ☐ Wipe baseboards, door frames, shelves and the tops of doors.
- ☐ Wash walls and doors where they show marks, and spot-clean scuffs.
- ☐ Clean interior glass, sills and the window tracks where dust gathers.
- ☐ Wipe light switches, handles and any built-in shelving.
- ☐ Vacuum carpets first, then mop hard floors last, including edges and corners.

The walkthrough

Do this last, with the lights on and the rooms empty. It is the same pass the other side will make.

TASK	ROOM	DONE	PHOTO
Oven interior, racks and the door glass.			
Fridge interior, seals and the floor behind it.			
Shower, tub, grout and the toilet base.			
Window tracks, sills and closet shelves.			
Baseboards, door frames and light switches.			
Floors, including room edges and corners.			
Every bin emptied and nothing left behind.			