

# Your fall cleaning Buttoned Up.™

With getting ready for Back to School and everything else on your To Do list, cleaning for Fall may not seem attainable. But no worries, you can get it done faster and more efficiently with one of Buttoned Up's favorite principles: delegation. There are many ways everyone in your household, no matter what their age, can help to get your home in tip top shape for the winter.

## suggested chore list

### ages 2-5

Help **dust books, shelves, & window sills**

Help **put all summer toys away**

Help **clean out under bed/couches**

Help **pick up the yard** (trash, twigs)

### ages 6-10

Carefully **clean off pots** of outdoor potted plants & put in the house (under Mom's direction)

Take all clothes & shoes out of your bedroom closet & **put summer clothes aside** to be put away; go thru your toys & **pull out summer toys** to be put away

**Laundry Duty**—take boxes of winter clothes & launder according to Mom's directions

Take a bucket of hot water & cleaning solution & **wipe down all outside tables (top & legs) & cushions** so they can be put away for the winter

**Sweep the pantry floor**, take everything off the shelves & **wipe down shelves** with a clean cloth & hot water; show all opened items to Mom; put all items back in the pantry—like items with like (cans with cans, noodles with noodles, etc.)

With your Mom or brothers or sisters, **turn your mattress over**

**Put all raked leaves in a yard bag** & take to street for trash to pick up

**Pull all the comforters, sheets, blankets & pillowcases** off the beds & **bring to the laundry room** for cleaning

**Take all the trash out of the cars' front & back seats**; take everything out of the car that should go elsewhere (house or garage); **clean the windows, dashboard, all handles & mirrors** with cleaner; clean off the seats; **vacuum the carpets & seats**; **take everything out of the glove box** & ask Mom & Dad what should be kept in the car.

**Empty everything from the inside refrigerator door & clean the door**; take everything off the shelves & clean them (remove to clean if you can) with hot soapy water; take everything out of the drawers & **clean the drawers**; **throw away any rotten or old food**; put food back on clean shelves & in clean drawers.

### ages 11 & up

**Update the car emergency kit** with blanket, water, fresh box of breakfast bars, flares & a flashlight

**Clean out closets**—personal closet, front door closet, utility closet & other closets in your home

**Vacuum**—the car, in-between the couch cushions, under the tables & couches, etc.

**Dust** hard-to-reach places

**Change windshield wipers, add wiper fluid**

**Pull out the ice scrapers** & add a couple of gallons of wiper fluid to the trunks

**Pull out the snow blower** & get ready for winter

**Shampoo rugs**

**Change light bulbs & smoke/carbon monoxide detector batteries**

**Rake up the leaves** & help younger kids put in bags

**Get salt ready** to use for those icy steps—put in a covered bucket with scoop

**Get out the snow shovel** for areas the snow blower will not reach, such as steps

Do final **cut of the lawn & prepare lawn mower** to be put away for winter—follow manufacturer's recs.

**Pull bushes away from house, check gutters** & clean if needed—make sure the melting snow can get down gutters to avoid ice build up on the roof

**Prepare summer machines for storage** (leaf blower, hedge trimmers, lawn mower) & **put away the hose**

**Clean off grill & patio furniture**, put away patio umbrellas & furnishings

**Inspect outdoor light fixtures**



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