

## **BATH ROOM**

**IMPORTANT REMINDER FOR EACH ROOM/AREA YOU DECLUTTER/CLEAN... If you haven't needed it, worn it, looked at it, or used it in a year (6 months if you really want to be ruthless) than GET RID OF IT! Quit keeping them *INCASE*... Jesus may come back before you use them, so bless someone else and give them away!**

Before beginning, make sure you have a:

- "KEEP" box (to go through after you're done with the room)
- "THROW" bag
- "BLESS" bag (for garage sale or to give away)

Keep those words in mind while you're cleaning/de-cluttering/organizing each room! "Keep, Throw, Bless"... MEMORIZE THEM... TAKE THEM TO HEART... THEY ARE YOUR FRIEND! (Tee hee...)

To make sure you have as little interruption as possible, the following ideas are helpful as well:

- have your phone in your cleaning kit (so it doesn't get lost) or let the answering machine get it (which is what I would suggest so you don't get stuck talking on the phone!)
- have water to drink (you could have little water bottles for the kids too if they're helping)
- music to get ya movin'
- your organizer with the "To Do" List filled out so you can be checking things off as you go

Okay... after you've done that, it's time to get cleaning! The following is a list of ideas that might help in cleaning your bathroom:

- Begin by taking a picture of the room before you get going... seriously... TAKE A PICTURE! This will be evidence... um, I mean, this will be an encouragement when you're done and you see what you've accomplished!
- Before you begin, if you have rugs on the floor or a bathmat, take them out to wash them while you clean the bathroom. That way they'll be done and ready to lay down again when the bathroom is clean.
- Start in the furthest corner of the BATHROOM. Begin the "bulldozing" process, top to bottom (or whatever method you choose... the bulldozing process is simply moving through the room like a bulldozer... starting at the top and working your way to the floor in continually moving to the doorway putting things in the designated Keep, Throw, Bless boxes/bags).
- Get any cobwebs or dust bunnies off the ceiling or light fixtures. This might be the time you decide to wash the light fixtures as well (which I strongly suggest in the bathroom! Bugs are NOT supposed to be in there by the way... did I just reveal something?...)
- If you have any windows in your bathroom, do your curtains need washing? Take them to the washing machine if so and get that load going while you continue to clean. (*Note: MAKE SURE THAT YOUR CURTAINS/DRAPERY IS WASHABLE! The first time I did mine, they shrunk about an inch!*) If you have blinds, what do they look like? Taking them down and washing them either outside or in the tub is an easy way to get them clean. They can just sit in there and soak. A sponge should get them clean by just wiping. Don't forget to rinse them.
- While you have your window treatments down, wash those windows and window sills (trim work).

- If you have a fabric shower curtain, take that down as well and wash that. Again, *MAKE SURE THAT YOUR CURTAINS/DRAPERY IS WASHABLE!* If you have a liner, either replace or clean that as well. (If you can't afford to get one right now, be sure to put it on your list so you remember when you go to the store.)
- Wash your mirror(s).
- Do your walls need any touch up paint, or can you just wash the little handprints off? Don't forget the switch plates as well.
- Dust or clean (using cleaner) any wall hangings.
- Wash/scrub your shower surround (tile) and clean out your tub. (If you have children's toys, be sure that they're either put into the kids' rooms again, or have a drawer or bag to keep them in so there's no clutter in the tub.)
  - If you have any racks in there, be sure to clean them as well. (If you don't have any racks, I would highly recommend putting that on your shopping list as well to help you cut down clutter in your shower. It helps when everything has its own place.)
- Clean the toilet... I mean, really clean the toilet!
  - Inside and out!!!! Now's a great time to use that toothbrush in your cleaning kit! Make it sparkle!
- Organize your medicine cabinet.
  - Take everything off the top shelf and clean it off. Put the things back that you want in there. (Make sure you evaluate so you're not putting anything back that isn't needed.)
  - Continue this process until you've completed all the shelves.
- Clean out your vanity/drawers. Do one drawer at a time.
  - Take everything out and wipe the inside of the drawer.
  - If you'd like to put new contact paper in there, it's a great time!
  - Little containers (found at most any store) are wonderful for make-up drawers, holding barrettes, combs, etc. They really help cut down the mess and clutter in your drawers! If you don't have them already, be sure to measure you drawer and write in down so you know how many it would take to fill a drawer the next time you go to the store.
  - Continue this process until you've finished all your drawers. (Don't forget to clean those toothbrushes and that gross toothpaste oozing out of the cover!... I mean, if you have that of course...)
  - Don't forget under your sink!
- Clean your sink and fixtures.
- Clean your countertop.
- If you keep any books or magazines in there, make sure they're clean and that there's a minimum so not to have clutter!
- Wipe/wash the trim work (baseboards) off (a great job for the kids as well!).
- Don't forget your vents. Depending on what kind you have, do you need to take the hose to them and vacuum them out?

- Finish by scrubbing/waxing your floor (even the oldest, worn floors look renewed with a coat of wax).
- Once you've finished the room, take your "KEEP, THROW, BLESS" bags and boxes out. This is important! Put the garbage one in the garbage... DO NOT leave it by the door for later... DO IT NOW! If you're going to give the "Bless" bag to charity, or something similar, then put it in the vehicle RIGHT NOW! If you plan on having a garage sale, then take it to the garage, and put the "Keep" box in a place where you will go through soon (while watching TV is a great time to do this, or in the evening while the kids are in bed... put some music in and spend time with the Lord talking about the day).
- Take an "after" picture! (I like to light a smelly candle after I've cleaned a room. Just an added touch for my husband to walk into when he gets home. Another touch could be flowers too.)
- Step back and pat yourself on the back! Great job! "X" it out on the "**Clean Heart, Clean Home Challenge**" At A Glance Calendar!