



Cleaning

Cleaning can be a great way to serve others, and could take place as fundraising in more private settings such as people's homes or community spaces like a church. Cleaning works great as an ongoing fundraiser because it's something that will always need to be regularly completed, and if you're diligent in your work people will generally be willing to keep having you back!

How you Start

Lots of people need cleaning done. Your job is to find them. It's easiest to start within communities of people that already have a connection with you:

- Announce your services at your church or leave a notice in the bulletin.
- Ask your friends and extended family if they need cleaning done.
- Do a letterbox drop around your neighborhood and areas you can realistically get to.

If you are wanting to look for more jobs outside of those areas you could also:

- Post on Facebook Jobs and on your page (ask friends to share).
- Browse the internet for house cleaning job platforms.
- Use flyers and posters to advertise your services.
- Put an ad in your local and school newspaper, and on community noticeboards.

How to Prepare

There are several things to consider and prepare for, and of course, every house/situation and 'customer' will be different and require different procedures.

Things to know

Be sure to ask and write down information for the following:

- **Allergies** - It's important to know about all allergies and conditions the residents of the house you are cleaning might have. Cleaning products may include ingredients which trigger allergic reactions.
Asthma is a big thing to consider when using sprays and aerosols.
- **Pets** - If the house owner owns a pet, be sure to find out about inside/outside rules and any behaviors you should encourage/discourage (e.g. jumping up on you or the furniture, barking, etc.)
- **Owner's environmental concerns** - People have many different views on ways in which they limit their impact on the environment. Make sure you respect the owner's views by using eco friendly products and being mindful of waste and recycling, etc. Even if the owner isn't particularly bothered about being environmentally friendly they are unlikely to object to you using eco-friendly products.

- **Detailed task lists** – Be sure to get a detailed list of jobs the owner wants done. If they've asked you to vacuum the floor, you need to know which floor/floors. Do this before arriving, so you can plan what cleaning supplies you will need.
 - Feel free to create your own checklist so that you are 100% aware of what you need to do. If you would be interested in a complete cleaning checklist, check out:

<https://cleanhousemelbourne.com.au/house-cleaning-checklist-the-ultimate-guide/>
- **Privacy** – Everyone has a level of privacy which they do not appreciate being intruded on. Find out if they have particular requests or places they don't want you cleaning.
- **Feedback** - Remember that a lot of things and ways of doing things are only going to be perfected with time and experience. That's why feedback from the owner is crucial if you're going to improve on your cleaning performance.
- **Safety** - If you don't know the people you are cleaning for, it is highly recommended that you have a parent or legal guardian with you. Another option is to do cleaning with someone else; an adult friend you trust. Chances are, they'll be happy to help you out and put their share of the money toward your team cost.

Make sure you also establish what time works best for cleaning, and how regularly they want particular jobs done. It's also good to discuss rates and payment methods beforehand as well.

What to Bring *(Suggested)*

It is easiest to bring all eco friendly products and supplies, while checking ingredients for any allergy triggers.

Big equipment

For these things it's a good idea to find out whether the location already owns these appliances and if they're fine with you using them as this can make your life a lot easier. Just make sure you know where they're kept and put them back when you're done:

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|----------------------|---------------------------|
| ● Vacuum cleaner | ● Duster |
| ● Mop and mop-bucket | ● Squeegee |
| ● Broom and dustpan | ● Toilet brush and holder |

General equipment

These are normal household products which most homes will have some form of. However, it's always good to bring your own in case it's needed:

- Cleaning solutions
- All-purpose cleaners
- Glass cleaner
- Toilet bowl cleaner
- Baking soda
- White vinegar
- Bleach, but keep in mind that the owner may not want you using bleach.

What to Bring (*Required*)

For these things it is best for you to bring them yourself:

- Microfibre cloths
- Thick rubber gloves
- Eco friendly:
 - All-purpose cleaner
 - Wood cleaner
 - Antibacterial spray and wipes
 - Hand towels and washers
 - Paper towel

Warning

If there is a surface which you need to clean but you are unsure what material it is made of, make sure you find out. You don't want to damage the material irreversibly or permanently by using the wrong cleaning solution.

On the Job

Remember to be professional in presentation, and thorough in what you do. You're a representative of Christ in your work so above and beyond, leaving a witness of the Kingdom.

