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10 things in your home you never clean — but should



Ceiling fans should be cleaned once every other month, a cleaning expert says. (Doc_Ever/Getty Images/Stockphoto)

By Daniel Bortz January 24

About 8 in 10 Americans say it's important to keep a clean home, a [recent survey](#) by global cleaning technology company Kärcher found. But some parts of the house get more TLC than others.

Your kitchen countertops might be spotless, for instance, but can you remember the last time you cleaned your oven racks — or the inside of your dishwasher? Did you even know you could clean the inside of a dishwasher?

Well, don't fret — we spoke to housekeeping experts and got the dirt on how to clean 10 often-neglected home items.

Oven racks

Over time, oven racks can become layered with grease, grime and baked-on food. The good news is there are a number of ways to clean them. If you have an oven with a self-cleaning function, you're all set. Oven racks can also be cleaned in the dishwasher, but if they don't fit, you can clean them manually, McGee says.

Remove the racks from the oven and lay them on the counter. Mix one-quarter cup of white vinegar, one-quarter cup of grease-cutting dishwashing liquid and one cup of water in a spray bottle. Spray the oven racks and let them sit for at least 20 minutes. Then, use a steel pot-scrubbing pad to remove any cooked-on mess. Can't get everything off? McGee recommends scrubbing with a microfiber cloth and [Bar Keepers Friend Cleanser & Polish](#). Once the racks are clean, rinse and air-dry them before reinstalling.