
Efficient Window Washing

SETUP CHECKLIST:

Materials:

- 1 Squeegee with 14" blade
- 1 Double bucket
- 1 Scrubber with 14" scrubber glove
- 10 Cotton cleaning cloths
- 1 Extension pole (2' to 4' variable length)
- 1 Pair of rubber gloves
- Glass Cleaner Concentrate (several ounces)

STOCK YOUR APRON WITH:

- 2 Cotton cleaning cloths
- 1 Razor blade holder

1. **Interior window sills:** If the interior window sills are dusty, vacuum them first to avoid making mud.
2. **Exterior window sills:** If the exterior window sills are dusty, hose them down first to avoid muddy streaks from running down the side of the home.
3. Fill one side of your double bucket to the halfway point with cool water. Add a tablespoon or so of Glass Cleaner Concentrate (GCC), **ONLY ADD MORE GCC IF THE SOLUTION DOESN'T APPEAR STRONG ENOUGH RIGHT FROM THE START.** If the windows are very dirty, discard the dirty water and mix a fresh batch of cool water and GCC more often, rather than adding more GCC to the original batch.
4. Place your **woven scrubber attachment** on the end of your extension pole.
5. Dip the scrubber into your solution of water and GCC. Wring out excess solution.
6. Apply the solution to the window using the scrubber. Scrub just enough to loosen the dirt on the surface. Return the scrubber to the empty side of your double bucket.

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7. **Using a cleaning cloth, dry a two-inch strip across the top and on each side of the window.** DO NOT START USING YOUR SQUEEGEE UNTIL YOU HAVE MADE YOUR "STARTER STRIP."
 8. Use a cleaning cloth to wipe the squeegee channel to make sure its surface is dry.
 9. Working from top to bottom, place the squeegee on a dry area of glass (the "starter strip") and steadily pull the squeegee down the window pane. Stop the squeegee stroke a few inches from the bottom, which will stop the chance of hitting a puddle or water on the window sill and thereby avoid splashing water back onto the dry section. Your last stroke will get this bottom pane area.
 10. Apply light and even pressure on your squeegee when pulling it down across the glass. No great pressures needed. If your squeegee is "skipping", the window may not be wet enough.
 11. Be sure to wipe the squeegee channel dry after each completed downward stroke.
 12. To help prevent water dribbling down the window, use as little water as you can. Place a folded cloth on the window sill near where the last stroke of the squeegee will be to catch any run-off and make drying easy.
 13. Repeat the above process from left to right across the window until you have only a strip left along the bottom of the window pane.
 14. To clean the last bottom strip of window, squeegee it from side to side. This will pull the last of the solution into the corner of the window sill where your cleaning cloth is sitting.

PROFESSIONAL TIPS

- A. If you find that some areas of the window are drying through evaporation before you get to them, wet only half the window at a time. You will find that you'll use more water outside than you will inside due to evaporation.
- B. Don't use your scrubber if you can't reach the top of the window without an extension pole. Instead, simply dip a cleaning cloth into your cleaning solution and wring it out as necessary.
- C. Don't wash window in direct sun. It will be impossible not to wind up with streaks if you do.
- D. If the top of the window is out of reach without an extension, use the water (your top starter strip) with your squeegee instead of a cloth.
- E. If you lift the squeegee off the surface before you finish your stroke, just start the stroke again in the area above where you stopped (remembering to dry the squeegee blade before restarting).
- F. If you encounter paint on the windows, use your **clean (and un-pitted)** razor blade when the window is wet.
- G. Avoid "touching up" your completed window cleaning job. A drip of water in the middle of the window will dry up ~ a smudge created by trying to get it generally won't. However, IF YOU MUST correct obvious streaks or spots, use a little GC applied with your fingertip directly to the spot, and then dry it with a cleaning cloth.
- H. For small windows, uneven surfaces, or leaded glass, use your GC and a white cleaning cloth instead of your normal window washing equipment.