

# The Ultimate Chicago Move-In Cleaning Checklist (2026 Edition)

Wells Ye, Founder of Fresh Tech Maid

## The Ultimate Chicago Move-In Cleaning Checklist (2026 Edition)

*The exact step-by-step list I've used in over 20,000 Chicago homes — chemical-free, room-by-room, and built to protect your family's health from the moment you turn the key.*

By Wells Ye, Founder of Fresh Tech Maid

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### Quick Answer

A real Chicago move-in clean takes 8 to 16 hours of work, has to happen *before* the furniture arrives, and starts in the kitchen and bathrooms. The big mistake I see every week is families racing through it with bleach and “all-purpose” sprays, which leaves more chemical residue behind than was there to begin with. This checklist gives you the same room-by-room order my crews use, the chemical-free supply kit that costs under \$80, the seven spots almost everyone misses, and a Chicago-specific add-on list for hard water, road salt, and old-building dust. If you only have time to read one section, jump to the kitchen list — that's where the biggest health wins are.

For the full health stakes, the DIY-versus-professional test, and your rights under Chicago's RLTO, see the pillar post: **DIY Move-In Cleaning vs. Professional in Chicago**.

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### Who This Checklist Is For

I wrote this for the families I meet across Chicago every week.

If you're a parent moving with kids under five, the kitchen and bathroom sections are non-negotiable for you. If you're a young professional signing your first

solo lease, the bedroom and floor sections matter most because that's where you spend the most hours breathing. If you're an empty nester or a senior moving into a condo, the documentation checklist near the end protects the investment you just made. If you're a college student or a renter with pets, the hidden-spots list and the carpet-edge step will surprise you.

Every section is written so you can print this whole guide, hand it to your partner or your cleaning crew, and not lose track of where you are.

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## Before You Begin: The Pre-Cleaning Checklist

This is the part most families skip, and it's the part that decides whether your move-in week is calm or chaotic.

**Two to three weeks before move-in:** -  Ask the landlord or seller for early access (most Chicago landlords allow it if you ask in writing) -  Take photos of the empty unit — wide shots of every room plus close-ups of any damage or grime -  Decide DIY, hybrid, or full professional (use the 5-question test in the pillar post) -  If hiring, get quotes from two or three companies and confirm W-2 employees, insurance, and chemical-free methods -  If hiring, ask about a synchronized booking with your move-out clean for the old place

**One week before:** -  Confirm cleaning appointment and key pickup -  Buy or borrow your supply kit (full list below) -  Block 8 to 16 hours on your calendar — split across two days if you can -  Read your lease for the cleaning standard you'll be held to at move-out

**Two to three days before:** -  Previous tenant has vacated — confirm with landlord -  Walk the empty unit one more time -  Ventilate: open every window for at least one hour before you start

**One day before furniture arrives:** -  Cleaning complete -  Final inspection with photos -  Floors fully dry (allow 2 to 4 hours)

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## Your Chemical-Free Supply Kit

This is the same kit my technicians carry. It costs about \$60 to \$80 to assemble, fits in a single tote, and replaces every bleach, ammonia, and “all-purpose” spray under your old sink.

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Supply	Why It's On the List	Approx. Cost
HEPA vacuum (rent or buy)	Captures 0.3-micron particles — dust mites, pollen, dander	\$80 to rent for the day

Supply	Why It's On the List	Approx. Cost
Microfiber cloths, color-coded set of 12+	Traps dust and bacteria without chemicals; color-coding stops cross-contamination	\$15
Microfiber mop head and bucket	Chemical-free floor cleaning with minimal water	\$20
Portable steam cleaner (rentable)	212°F+ kills 99.9% of bacteria, dissolves grease, leaves zero residue	\$30 to rent
White vinegar, one gallon	Cuts grease and dissolves Chicago's hard water scale	\$4
Baking soda (Arm & Hammer, large box)	Mild abrasive for scrubbing; natural deodorizer	\$4
Liquid castile soap (Dr. Bronner's)	Plant-based surfactant for general cleaning	\$12
3% hydrogen peroxide, large bottle	Disinfects without toxicity — breaks down to water and oxygen	\$4
HOCl (hypochlorous acid) spray, optional	The disinfectant we use in our own service — see our HOCl guide	\$20
Two-step ladder	Reaches ceiling fans, vents, and the tops of cabinets	varies

**Color-coding system I use:** - Red cloths → toilets only - Yellow → bathroom surfaces (sinks, tubs, counters) - Blue → kitchen surfaces - Green → general dusting and living areas

This one habit prevents more cross-contamination than any product you can buy.

**What to skip entirely:** bleach, ammonia, anything labeled “all-purpose,” anything labeled “fresh linen” or “spring breeze,” and any disinfecting wipe with a fragrance. Research published in Environmental Science & Technology shows bleach-based cleaners form chloroform and carbon tetrachloride every time they touch surfactants or fragrance — pollutants your new home didn't have until you sprayed them on.

## The 4 Rules I Teach Every New Technician

Before I let a new hire touch a rag in someone's home, I drill these four rules. They're the difference between cleaning and just spreading dirt around.

1. **Top to bottom.** Dust falls down. Ceiling fans before counters. Counters before floors. If you mop first, you'll just mop again.
2. **Back to front.** Start at the back wall of each room and work toward the door. You'll never walk over wet floors or already-cleaned spots.
3. **Empty first.** Clean before the furniture arrives. You cannot clean under a bed once the bed is on the floor. This single rule decides whether your move-in clean is real or theater.
4. **Health priorities first.** Kitchen and bathrooms get the most time and the most attention. Living areas and bedrooms come second. Floors are always last.

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## Kitchen Move-In Checklist (3 to 4 hours)

The kitchen is where the previous tenant's life is most still living. I've found greasy exhaust hoods six months after the last tenant moved out. I've found cabinet interiors with sticky residue you could write your name in. This is the most important room in the entire move-in clean.

**Step 1 — High dust (15 minutes)** -  Ceiling corners and light fixtures -   
 Tops of cabinets (use the ladder) -  Vent covers and any exposed ductwork -   
 Tops of door frames and window frames

**Step 2 — Cabinets, inside and out (45 minutes)** -  Empty every cabinet and drawer (they should already be empty — check anyway) -  Vacuum out crumbs and debris with the HEPA hose attachment -  Wipe interiors with vinegar-water solution (1:1) using a blue cloth -  Pay attention to drawer tracks and hinge corners — that's where grease hides -  Wipe cabinet exteriors top to bottom -  Don't forget the toe-kicks at the floor

**Step 3 — Refrigerator, inside and out (30 minutes)** -  Pull the fridge out from the wall (carefully — don't disconnect the water line) -  Vacuum the coils on the back -  Mop the floor underneath -  Empty all shelves and drawers -  Wash removable parts in the sink with castile soap and warm water -  Wipe interior with vinegar-water and dry with a clean blue cloth -  Clean the door gasket with an old toothbrush — mold hides here -  Wipe exterior, including the top, the sides, and the handles -  Slide fridge back into place

**Step 4 — Oven and stovetop (45 minutes)** -  Sprinkle baking soda inside the oven, spray with vinegar, let sit 30 minutes -  While that works, remove burner grates and drip pans — soak in hot water with castile soap -  Wipe down stovetop with a blue cloth -  Use steam cleaner on the exhaust hood, including the underside and the filter -  Pull the oven out if you can — clean

behind and underneath -  Wipe out the oven interior with a clean cloth -   
Replace burner grates and drip pans

**Step 5 — Dishwasher and microwave (15 minutes)** -  Microwave: put a bowl of vinegar-water inside, run for 3 minutes on high, then wipe interior -   
 Dishwasher: remove the bottom rack, clean the filter, wipe the door gasket -   
 Run an empty cycle with a cup of vinegar on the top rack -  Wipe both exteriors

**Step 6 — Sink, faucet, and backsplash (15 minutes)** -  Steam clean the sink basin and faucet -  Soak the strainer in vinegar -  Scrub the backsplash with castile soap, rinse, dry -  Disinfect the faucet handles with hydrogen peroxide (high-touch surface)

**Step 7 — Counters and cleared horizontal surfaces (15 minutes)** -  Wipe counters with vinegar-water using a blue cloth -  Disinfect with HOCl or hydrogen peroxide -  Window sills and tracks (use an old toothbrush in the corners)

**Step 8 — Floor (15 minutes)** -  HEPA vacuum the entire floor, including under the toe-kicks and around the fridge -  Steam mop or microfiber mop with vinegar-water -  Allow 2 hours to dry before walking on it

**Time budget: 3 to 4 hours total.** This is the longest single room in the home. Don't rush it.

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## Bathroom Move-In Checklist (2 hours per bathroom)

Bathrooms are second in priority because of mold spores, biological contamination, and grout that traps everything. I tell every client this: a bathroom that smells like bleach the day before move-in is a warning sign, not a success signal.

**Step 1 — High dust (5 minutes)** -  Light fixtures and bulbs -  Exhaust fan cover (this is critical — pull it down and vacuum the blades) -  Tops of door and window frames

**Step 2 — Mirrors and glass (10 minutes)** -  Spray vinegar-water on a yellow cloth (never directly on the mirror — it pools at the bottom) -  Wipe top to bottom -  Buff dry with a second clean cloth for streak-free finish

**Step 3 — Tub and shower (45 minutes)** -  Apply baking soda paste to soap scum and let sit 15 minutes -  Steam clean grout lines — this is the single most powerful tool you have for old grout -  Scrub with a yellow cloth and rinse -  Treat any visible mold with hydrogen peroxide (not bleach — peroxide breaks down safely) -  Replace shower head if it's calcified — Chicago hard water destroys these -  Clean tub jets if applicable (run a vinegar cycle through them) -  Wipe shower door tracks with a toothbrush

**Step 4 — Toilet (20 minutes)** -  Use a red cloth — only red, never anything else -  Tank top, lid, seat (top and bottom), bowl rim, base, and the floor immediately around it -  Inside the bowl with a toilet brush and castile soap -  Disinfect the flush handle with hydrogen peroxide -  Don't forget behind the toilet — that's where most of the contamination I find lives

**Step 5 — Sink, vanity, and faucet (15 minutes)** -  Empty under-sink area completely (check for mouse droppings and old chemical residue) -  Vacuum the cabinet floor -  Wipe interior with vinegar-water -  Steam clean the sink basin and faucet -  Wipe the vanity exterior and the cabinet doors

**Step 6 — Floor and baseboards (25 minutes)** -  HEPA vacuum, paying attention to corners and behind the toilet -  Hand-wipe baseboards with a yellow cloth -  Steam mop or microfiber mop with vinegar-water -  Disinfect the door knob and the light switch with hydrogen peroxide

**Time budget: 2 hours per bathroom.** Add 30 minutes for any bathroom with visible mold or heavy hard-water scale.

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## Bedroom Move-In Checklist (45 minutes per bedroom)

Bedrooms are about allergen removal — dust mites, pet dander, pollen, and human skin cells from the previous occupant. The work here is mostly vacuuming, but the order matters.

- Ceiling fan and light fixtures** — wipe blades top and bottom, blades trap pet dander
  - Tops of door frames, window frames, and any high shelving**
  - Closet interior** — vacuum the floor, wipe shelves, wipe the rod
  - Window blinds** — wipe each slat with a microfiber cloth
  - Window glass and tracks** — vinegar-water, then a toothbrush in the tracks
  - Window sills** — these are dust traps in older Chicago buildings
  - Walls** — spot-check for marks and wipe with a damp cloth where needed
  - Outlet covers and light switches** — high-touch, often forgotten
  - Door knobs** — disinfect with hydrogen peroxide
  - Baseboards** — hand-wipe, don't just dust
  - Floor** — HEPA vacuum the entire room, including the closet and along the wall edges
  - Hard floors** — steam mop or microfiber mop with vinegar-water
  - Carpet edges** — vacuum where carpet meets baseboard, this is one of the seven hidden spots
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## Living Areas Move-In Checklist (1 to 2 hours)

Living rooms, dining rooms, and hallways follow the same six-step method as bedrooms, with a few additions for high-traffic surfaces.

- All ceiling fans, vents, and light fixtures**
- Built-in shelving and mantles**
- Window treatments — blinds, shades, or curtain rods if any are left behind**
- Window glass and tracks**
- All door knobs, switches, and outlet covers**
- Air vents and return-air grilles** (vacuum these — they're full of dust)
- Thermostat** (gentle wipe, don't soak it)
- Fireplace** if applicable — vacuum out the firebox, wipe the surround
- Hallway closets and coat closets** — vacuum and wipe shelves
- Stair treads and risers** if applicable, plus the underside of the railing
- Baseboards throughout — hand-wiped, not dusted**
- Floors last** — HEPA vacuum, then steam or microfiber mop

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## Floors: The Final Step

Floors come last because everything else falls onto them.

- HEPA vacuum every floor in the home, including hard surfaces (vacuum picks up what brooms scatter)
- Hand-vacuum the carpet edges where they meet the baseboard
- Steam mop hard floors, or microfiber mop with vinegar-water (1:4 ratio)
- Spot-treat any stains with castile soap and warm water
- Allow 2 to 4 hours to fully dry before moving in furniture or walking on the surface
- Open windows during drying to ventilate

**Chicago floor warning:** Original hardwood in pre-1970s buildings hates excessive water. Wring your mop almost dry. Damp, never wet.

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## The 7 Hidden Spots Almost Every Family Misses

These are the spots I've found contaminated in nearly every home I've inspected over twenty years. Add these to your checklist even if you do nothing else.

1. **Inside appliances** — fridge, oven, dishwasher, microwave, washer drum, dryer lint trap
2. **Inside cabinets and drawers** — the corners and the toe-kicks especially
3. **Behind and under appliances** — pull the fridge, the stove, and the washer if you can

4. **Window tracks** — old window tracks in Chicago buildings can hold years of dust
5. **Door knobs and light switches** — high-touch, low-cleaned
6. **Bathroom grout lines** — soap scum, mold spores, and biological residue
7. **Carpet edges along the walls** — vacuums don't reach there with normal passes

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## Chicago-Specific Add-Ons

Chicago throws problems at homeowners that you don't see in other cities. These are the local extras my crews handle every week.

**Vintage bungalows and two-flats (pre-1970s):** -  Cast-iron radiator crevices — vacuum first, then wipe with a damp cloth -  Original hardwood — vinegar-water only, mop almost dry -  Plaster walls — gentle damp wiping, don't scrub -  Pantry shelves and butler's pantries — old wood holds smells, ventilate after cleaning -  Original tile bathroom floors — steam clean grout, don't bleach

**Lakefront high-rises:** -  Floor-to-ceiling window tracks — Lake Michigan moisture causes condensation buildup -  HVAC return-air grilles — high-rises share ventilation, so neighbor contamination ends up here -  Balcony slider tracks — gravel and grit accumulate fast -  In-unit laundry stacks — clean the dryer vent if accessible

**Winter move-ins (November through March):** -  Salt removal — vinegar solution first, never plain water (water dissolves salt into brine that soaks into wood) -  Entry mats and tile — extra attention because every previous tenant tracked salt in -  Boot tray area — disinfect with hydrogen peroxide

**Hard water (everywhere in Chicago — 148 ppm):** -  Faucets and shower heads — vinegar soak for 30 minutes, then scrub -  Glass shower doors — vinegar solution, then squeegee dry -  Toilet bowl ring — vinegar and baking soda paste

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## The Final Walk-Through Checklist

Before you hand the truck driver your move-in address, walk the unit one more time with this list. It's far easier to fix something now than after the couch is in the way.

- Every room smells like nothing — no fragrance, no chemicals, no must
- All cabinet interiors are dry and empty (open every door and check)
- Inside the fridge, oven, and dishwasher all dry and clean
- All window tracks are dust-free

- Every door knob, light switch, and outlet cover wiped
- Bathroom grout lines bright and dry
- No standing water anywhere
- Floors fully dry
- Photos taken of every room *after* cleaning (these become your move-out baseline)
- HVAC filter checked — replace if dirty (this is your call to make, not the previous tenant's)

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## Documentation Checklist (Protect Yourself Years From Now)

The thoroughness that protects your family's health at move-in is the same thoroughness that protects your deposit at move-out. This part takes 20 minutes and saves an average of \$800 in disputed deductions years from now.

- Wide shot of every room before any cleaning happens
- Close-up of any pre-existing damage (chips, holes, stains, scratches)
- Wide shot of every room after cleaning is complete
- Photos of every appliance interior after cleaning
- Video walkthrough narrating the date and any issues
- Phone metadata confirms timestamps — don't disable that
- Email yourself the photos so they're cloud-backed
- Written notice to landlord of any pre-existing damage, sent the same day
- Save a copy of your move-in cleaning receipt (DIY supplies or professional invoice)

Chicago's RLTO requires landlords to provide itemized deductions — your photos prove what was pre-existing versus what you caused.

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## DIY-to-Pro Switch Checklist

It's okay to start DIY and switch to a professional partway through. Switching is cheaper than moving into a half-cleaned apartment. Make the call if:

- You're four hours in and only one room is done
- You found mold you can't fully remove
- The previous tenant left visible pest evidence
- The furniture truck is closer than you thought
- You're physically exhausted and tomorrow is move day
- Anyone in the household has asthma or chemical sensitivity and the air still smells off
- The kitchen alone took longer than you budgeted for the entire home

A reputable Chicago move-in cleaning service can usually accommodate next-day or same-day service if you call before noon.

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## Coordinating Both Places: The Dual-Location Checklist

The hardest part of any Chicago move isn't the cleaning — it's being in two places at once. Here's the order I recommend when you have to handle both an old place and a new place in the same week.

**The week before your old lease ends:** -  Book one cleaning company for both locations if possible — same standards, one point of contact -  Schedule old place cleaning 2 to 3 days before lease end -  Schedule new place cleaning 1 day before furniture arrives at new address -  Coordinate key handoffs at both ends

**Move week itself:** -  Day 1: Pack and start loading -  Day 2: Old place cleaned (you supervise or trust the pro) -  Day 3: Photos at old place, key returned, written walkthrough requested from landlord -  Day 4: New place cleaned (you can be at the old place finishing up) -  Day 5: Furniture moves into a clean home, no mop required

**The “I can't be in two places” solution:** synchronized scheduling with one company, like the combined move-in and move-out booking we offer. One contact, one invoice, same standards at both ends.

For more on the deposit-protection side of this same move, see our move-out cleaning guide.

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## Time and Cost Summary

Home Size	DIY Time Budget	Professional Cost (Standard)	Professional + Common Add-Ons
Studio / 1-Bedroom	4 to 8 hours	\$150 to \$200	\$200 to \$275
2-Bedroom	6 to 10 hours	\$200 to \$300	\$275 to \$400
3-Bedroom+	8 to 16 hours	\$300 to \$400	\$400 to \$550
Heavy oven add-on	included in DIY	—	+\$25 to \$50

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Source: Chicago market averages, 2026. See our pricing page for current rates.

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## Frequently Asked Questions

### **What's included in a move-in cleaning checklist for a Chicago apartment?**

A complete move-in cleaning checklist for a Chicago apartment includes inside-and-out cleaning of all appliances (fridge, oven, dishwasher, microwave), inside cabinets and drawers, all bathroom surfaces with grout attention, hand-wiped baseboards, window glass and tracks, light fixtures and ceiling fans, every door knob and light switch, and HEPA-vacuumed and mopped floors. Standard professional packages cover surfaces only; the checklist above adds the inside-the-cabinet and behind-the-appliance work that protects your family's health.

### **How long does a thorough move-in cleaning take?**

A thorough DIY move-in cleaning takes 4 to 8 hours for a studio or one-bedroom, 6 to 10 hours for a two-bedroom, and 8 to 16 hours for a three-bedroom or larger home. A professional team typically completes the same work in half the time because of training, equipment, and division of labor.

### **What chemicals should I avoid when cleaning a new Chicago home?**

Avoid bleach, ammonia, "all-purpose" sprays, and any product with synthetic fragrance. Bleach forms chloroform and carbon tetrachloride when it touches surfactants or fragrance. Ammonia mixed with bleach residue from the previous tenant creates toxic chloramine gas. Fragranced products react with indoor ozone to form formaldehyde and ultrafine particles. Stick to vinegar, baking soda, castile soap, 3% hydrogen peroxide, steam, and HOCl.

### **Should I clean my new Chicago apartment before or after move-in?**

Always before. The single most important rule of move-in cleaning is that it has to happen while the unit is empty. Once your bed is on the floor and your dishes are in the cabinets, the spots that matter most — under the bed, inside cabinets, behind the fridge — become impossible to reach without disrupting your entire home.

### **What is the best move-in cleaning service Chicago offers?**

The best move-in cleaning service in Chicago uses W-2 employees, carries one million dollars in general liability insurance plus workers' comp, offers a written 24-to-48-hour satisfaction guarantee, uses chemical-free methods, and publishes a backup-staffing policy so a single sick call doesn't ruin your move day. Fresh Tech Maid is built around all five.

### **How do I find affordable move-in cleaning Chicago services?**

Get quotes from two or three companies, ask for an itemized written checklist, and compare scope rather than price alone. Affordable doesn't mean cash-only or the lowest hourly rate — those are red flags. Affordable means transparent

flat-rate pricing, no hidden add-ons, and a guarantee that protects you if something is missed. Chicago move-in cleaning typically runs \$150 to \$400 depending on size.

### **What’s the difference between move-in cleaning and deep cleaning?**

Move-in cleaning specifically targets the contamination layer left by previous tenants — inside appliances, inside cabinets, behind appliances, and high-touch disinfection. Deep cleaning goes further into accumulated grime in an occupied home and includes things like wiping individual books, deep carpet treatment, and detailed dusting of decor. For a brand-new move-in, the move-in package is usually what you need.

### **Do I need a chemical-free move-in cleaning service if I have kids?**

Yes, especially for children under five. Children breathe more air per pound of body weight than adults, breathe closer to the ground where heavier pollutants settle, and put their hands in their mouths constantly. A Canadian Medical Association Journal study of more than 2,000 infants found higher rates of wheeze and asthma by age three in homes with frequent cleaning-product use. Chemical-free cleaning removes contamination without adding new contamination on top.

### **Can a move-in cleaning service handle dual-location moves in Chicago?**

Yes — and it’s the cleanest solution for the “I can’t be in two places at once” problem. Synchronized booking with one company gives you one point of contact, the same cleaning standard at both addresses, and usually a better combined price than two separate bookings.

### **What if my new Chicago apartment isn’t move-in ready?**

Document everything with photos and written notice to the landlord before you touch anything. Chicago’s RLTO requires habitable, fit units — but “habitable” and “professionally cleaned” aren’t the same standard, and enforcement is slow. Realistic options: hire cleaning yourself and request reimbursement (often unsuccessful but worth trying), or pursue legal action only if there are actual health hazards like mold, pests, or no heat. For “dirty but not unsafe,” cleaning yourself is usually faster than waiting for the landlord to act.

### **How do I disinfect a new home without using bleach?**

Use 3% hydrogen peroxide for general disinfection (it breaks down to water and oxygen), HOCl for high-touch surfaces (the same disinfectant used in food-grade applications), and steam at 212°F or higher for grout, sinks, and tubs. All three kill 99.9% of bacteria and viruses without leaving any residue, smell, or reactive byproduct.

### **What’s the best way to clean inside cabinets before moving in?**

Empty the cabinet completely. Vacuum the interior with a HEPA hose attachment to remove crumbs and dust. Wipe with a 1:1 vinegar-water solution using

a microfiber cloth. Pay extra attention to corners, drawer tracks, hinge corners, and toe-kicks at the floor level — that’s where grease and grime hide. Allow the interior to air-dry completely before placing dishes inside.

### **How much should I tip a move-in cleaning crew in Chicago?**

If your service was professional and thorough, a 15 to 20 percent tip on the total cost is standard in Chicago. For a \$250 cleaning, that’s \$40 to \$50 split among the crew. Tipping isn’t required and most reputable companies pay fair wages, but it’s appreciated for the physically demanding work of a move-in clean.

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## **A Final Word from My 20 Years in Chicago Homes**

Here’s what I want every family to take away from this checklist.

A real move-in clean isn’t about making the place look pretty for the photos. It’s about removing the contamination that’s been sitting there for months or years, without adding new chemicals on top. It’s about doing it before the truck arrives, while the unit is empty and every surface is reachable. And it’s about documenting every step so that years from now, when a landlord disputes a deduction, you have the receipts.

If you do nothing else from this guide, do these three things: clean before the furniture arrives, skip the bleach and the fragrance, and take photos.

The day you get keys is the day you clean. Not the day you move in. By the time the truck pulls up, it’s already too late.

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## **Ready to Move In Without Lifting a Finger?**

If this checklist looks like more than you have time for this week — and it usually is during a Chicago move — we can handle the whole thing. Same chemical-free method. Same checklist. W-2 employees. Background-checked. Insured. Backup-staffing guarantee.

**Book a Move-In Cleaning →**

Or call us directly at **(847) 392-0888**. Same-day and next-day appointments available during move-in season.

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## **About the Author**

**Wells Ye** founded Fresh Tech Maid and EmployJoy.ai after spending more than 20 years in the service industry. He has personally cleaned, inspected, or supervised cleaning in over 20,000 Chicago homes.

Wells managed a \$500 million service contract portfolio and personally hired more than 2,000 workers and managers along the way. He earned his MBA from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania and wrote “Revolutionize Service Industry Hiring: Discover the Secrets to Exceptional Success”, which reached #1 on Amazon in its category.

Wells holds a ForHumanity Independent Certified AI Auditor (FHCA) credential covering AI, algorithmic, and autonomous systems.

Connect with Wells on LinkedIn.

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## Related Reading

- **Pillar guide:** DIY Move-In Cleaning vs. Professional in Chicago — The Decision That Protects (or Ruins) Your Family’s Health
  - The Safest Way to Disinfect a Home
  - Move-In Cleaning Service in Chicago
  - Move-Out Cleaning Service in Chicago
  - Deep Cleaning Service in Chicago
  - Chicago Residential Landlord and Tenant Ordinance (RLTO)
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*Fresh Tech Maid serves Chicago, Evanston, Skokie, Arlington Heights, and the Northwest Suburbs. Chemical-free cleaning since 2003.*