

Post Construction Cleaning Checklist: Ensuring a Thorough Clean Up

Construction can create or transform a space. It can introduce great new features to a property, but it also leaves a mess. After construction, a site is typically covered in dust and debris left over from each phase of building and installation. Before the space is ready for use, it will need thorough cleaning.

Of course, it takes more than a damp sponge to get the job done. That is why every developer, property owner, and DIY enthusiast can benefit from a comprehensive post-construction cleaning checklist. We are here to help you ensure a complete and efficient cleaning process.

Debris Removal

The first task for post-construction cleanup is typically debris removal. You will want to pick up all remnants of the construction process that can be easily picked up or swept away. This addresses larger debris so that you can focus on dust and details in each room.

- ⌘ Pick up scrap packaging like plastic wrap, paper shreds, and product labels
- ⌘ Collect leftover materials like board cuttings, drywall, chunks, broken tiles, and used or lost nails.
- ⌘ Sweep up all visible debris.

After removing debris, be sure to dispose of it properly based on the type, material, and size.

Safety Tips

- ⌘ Be especially careful about lost and bent nails that may be left behind
- ⌘ Wear heavy gloves if any materials are sharp or jagged
- ⌘ Do not touch packaging for chemical products with your bare hands, just in case.

General Cleaning

Once you have removed the debris, you can address generalized cleaning for the entire space. This includes overall removal of dust and particulates left over from the construction process. Construction can leave behind a lot of sawdust, drywall dust, and silica dust. Be careful not to breathe too much of it during the cleaning process.

- ⌘ Use dust cloths and mops to remove dust from every surface. This includes:
 - ⌘ walls
 - ⌘ ceiling

- ☒ light fixtures
- ☒ surfaces
- ☒ furnishings
- ☒ Wipe down everything with a damp cloth
- ☒ Vacuum and empty the vacuum bin or bag often.
- ☒ Steam-clean carpets and mop hard floors
- ☒ Clean and then polish windows and mirrors.

Safety Tips

- ☒ Wear a dust mask, especially when there are clouds of dust or cleaning areas above your head where dust can fall onto you.
- ☒ Open the windows and doors for ventilation.

Room by Room Breakdown

When building your checklist, divide cleaning tasks room by room. General cleaning can help remove the overall grime left from construction, but each type of room also has unique needs and features that should be addressed.

- ☒ **Kitchen**
 - ☒ Clean every surface
 - ☒ Sanitize food prep areas
 - ☒ Sanitize the inside of every cabinet
 - ☒ Prepare space for appliances
 - ☒ Air out for VOC outgassing
- ☒ **Bathrooms**
 - ☒ Wipe every wall and surface
 - ☒ Sanitize tile and fixtures
 - ☒ Polish mirrors
- ☒ **Living Areas**
 - ☒ Wipe down light fixtures and switches
 - ☒ Vacuum and steam-clean carpets
 - ☒ Steam clean upholstery
 - ☒ Run an air filter to remove ambient dust
- ☒ **Bedrooms**
 - ☒ Vacuum and steam-clean carpets
 - ☒ Wipe down closets and upper shelves
 - ☒ Run an air filter to remove ambient dust
- ☒ **Offices and Workshops**
 - ☒ Wipe down all built-in surfaces
 - ☒ Dust and test power outlets and fixtures

- ✗ Vacuum or mop, based on floor type

Safety Tips

- ✗ Wear a dust mask when dusting and vacuuming for post-construction cleanup.
- ✗ Wear rubber gloves when using powerful sanitization chemicals for the first-time cleaning of kitchens and bathrooms.

Specialized Cleaning

There are also certain types of specialized cleaning that only take place after construction.

- ✗ Removing paint splatters
- ✗ Removing adhesive residue
- ✗ Scrubbing grout haze
- ✗ Cleaning air vents
- ✗ Polishing fixtures

Safety Tips

- ✗ Get a fresh mask and wear gloves before using strong chemicals like paint and adhesive removal.
- ✗ Open the windows and doors for ventilation if any cleaning substance has a chemical smell.

Why a Checklist is Beneficial

Having a post-construction checklist enhances your organization and efficiency while helping you to avoid costly mistakes. A checklist helps you stay organized so that you do not miss any crucial cleaning steps. This ensures your finished building is fully cleared of dust and unwanted residues and safe to occupy. It can also help you avoid problems like dust affecting your air quality or damage caused by leftover debris.

In addition to a quick and efficient clean-up, a complete checklist also provides peace of mind. You will gain reassurance and a sense of completion before moving into the space.

When Professional Help is Needed

For smaller projects, DIY post-construction cleanup is easily handled. However, you may benefit from [professional post-construction cleaning services](#) for large, complex, or advanced projects that call for more than a few dust cloths and a can-do attitude.

Professional cleaning services are the most suitable for large projects, when you have time constraints, or when hazardous materials are involved. Stratus Building Solutions offers expert post-construction cleaning. We proudly provide a trustworthy option for professional cleaning after construction, bringing experience, highly trained staff, and specialized equipment to meet the needs of your freshly built or renovated property.

Completing Your Post-Construction Cleanup

Having a checklist for post-construction cleanup leads to a safer, cleaner, and more presentable move-in-ready space. For a hassle-free experience, consider professional post-construction cleaning services with Stratus Building Solutions. [Contact us](#) to consult on your property and project needs.