

# Memorial Day Cleaning Checklist

The 3-Hour Hosting Triage | Guest-Ready Before the Cookout

For Memorial Day 2026 | Monday, May 25, 2026

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## THE COUNTDOWN (START 2 WEEKS OUT)

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|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 weeks before (May 9-10): Order supplies online          | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 week before (May 18): Full fridge cleanout            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 weeks before: Air out outdoor cushions and textiles     | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 week before: Run dishwasher with vinegar to descale   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 weeks before: Spot-clean any mildew with mild dish soap | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 week before: Build or refresh your cleaning caddy     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 weeks before: Schedule yard work or do a yard pass      | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 days before (Sat May 23): Run the 3-Hour Triage below |

## HOOR 1: RESET THE GUEST ZONES (0 - 60 MIN)

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|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Front entry: wipe storm door glass (Method glass cleaner) | <input type="checkbox"/> Kitchen: clear every flat surface into a laundry basket               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Front entry: shake the rug, vacuum the inside doormat     | <input type="checkbox"/> Kitchen: spray and wipe counters, polish faucet                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Front entry: clear console, wipe surface, polish doorknob | <input type="checkbox"/> Kitchen: empty or load the dishwasher, wipe stovetop                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Powder room: clean toilet, sink, mirror, floor            | <input type="checkbox"/> Living room: vacuum in straight lines                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Powder room: swap in fresh hand towel and liner           | <input type="checkbox"/> Living room: plump pillows, fold throw, clear coffee table to 3 items |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Powder room: small candle or bud vase on counter          | <input type="checkbox"/> Living room: wipe TV screen with dry microfiber                       |

## HOOR 2: THE 5-TOUCH PATIO RESET (60 - 120 MIN)

- The grill: preheat 10 min, brush grates, wipe exterior, empty grease tray
- The dining table: wipe top, legs, underside edge, then set the table
- The seating: wipe chairs, bring out cushions, sun-deodorize if musty
- The floor: sweep first, then mop or hose down (move planters)
- The styling layer: small flag, citronella candles in 3 spots, outdoor throw

## HOOR 3: FINAL POLISH + AMBIANCE (120 - 180 MIN)

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Florals: grocery flowers in 2 spots (entry + table)       | <input type="checkbox"/> Closet-adjacent tidy: clear front-of-closet winter pieces     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Front door: small seasonal wreath or greenery swag        | <input type="checkbox"/> Scent: light a candle (Mrs. Meyer's basil or similar)         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Powder room: fresh hand towels, visible toilet paper roll | <input type="checkbox"/> Sound: queue up playlist on the speaker                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Powder room: swap in clean bath mat                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Lighting: lamps on, overheads off, warm 2700K bulbs preferred |

## MORNING OF: MONDAY, MAY 25 (15 MIN ONLY)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Empty the dishwasher                               | <input type="checkbox"/> Swap in fresh powder room hand towels                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fluff throw pillows and re-fold the sofa blanket   | <input type="checkbox"/> Light a candle 10 minutes before first guest arrives |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hit any spots that aged overnight (counters, sink) |   |

## THE SHORT SUPPLY LIST (8 ITEMS)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Microfiber cloths in 3 colors (glass, surface, bath)       | <input type="checkbox"/> OxiClean spray for patio cushion stains        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> All-purpose spray (Mrs. Meyer's, Method, or Branch Basics) | <input type="checkbox"/> Grill brush (replace if bristles are loose)    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Glass cleaner (Method)                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Lemon furniture polish for wood (optional)     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bathroom cleaner (Lysol or Method)                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Two large laundry baskets for surface-clearing |

Reusable for July 4th and Labor Day. Save your bins, save this checklist, save yourself 90 minutes next time.

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