

## How to Clean Roller Shades:

Roller shades offer simple and elegant window coverings that fit in with nearly every décor. However, before adding shades to your list of items to clean, make sure you know what material your shades are made of. Cleaning methods depend largely on the material of the roller shade. Various fabrics include: vinyl, fabric, polyester, or delicate materials like mercerised cotton used to make Plisse shades. If your shades are vinyl you do not need to be overly delicately with how you handle them. If your shades are cloth however, you will want to give them plenty of TLC.

Below are supplies that you will need depending on the material of your shades.

### Supplies:

- Feather Duster or Soft Hand Broom
- Vacuum with brush attachment
- Sponge or soft cloths
- Lukewarm water (vinyl only)
- Simple Green (vinyl only)
- Mr. Clean Magic Eraser
- Friend to help (optional)

### Step by Step Shade Cleaning:

#### **Cloth Blinds**

- 1) For routine cleaning, use a feather duster or a soft hand broom to flick dust, dirt, or uninvited inhabitants off the roller shade.
- 2) If it's been awhile and there is caked on dust, switch to vacuuming
- 3) Turn the vacuum on to a low suction

- 4) Use the brush attachment on the vacuum and gently brush over the entire surface of the shade
- 5) Work in small sections ensuring the fabric is not being stretched.

### **Vinyl Blinds**

- 1) If the blinds are especially dirty, begin with a thorough vacuuming to remove the surface dirt.
- 2) Ensure the vacuum suction is on low
- 3) Use the brush attachment on the vacuum and brush over the entire surface of the shade
- 4) For especially dirty blinds do the following:
  - a) Put them at half mast
  - b) Use a well-wrung cloth or sponge dipped in a solution of Simple Green (just a squirt) and lukewarm water
  - c) Wipe the shade in sections starting at the bottom, targeting fingerprints around the pull or edges
  - d) Rinse one section and continue working (washing and rinsing) upward until the entire shade is clean, unfurling as you go
- 5) Leave the shade fully extended to dry
- 6) For tough stains, scrub them gently with a Mr. Clean Magic Eraser.

### **Additional Tips**

- 1) Avoid using harsh cleaners on the fabric as it may damage the material.
- 2) Do not saturate the sponge as you never want water to run down your shade
- 3) Do not scrub too hard or use the abrasive side of the sponge.
- 4) Regular cleanings will help keep major dirt and stains from building up on roller shades
- 5) Ensure the shade is completely dry before rolling it up