

Hints For Homemakers

Streamline Cleaning, Balance Your Life

(NAPSA)—If you're like most people, combining job and home is wearing you down. Nearly 50 percent of employees said they feel daily spillover of home to work, according to a recent national survey.

To streamline and speed up home cleaning and help balance your life, follow the advice offered in an innovative new program—corporate seminars on home cleaning.

“Clutter at home can clutter the mind and make people feel disorganized on the job. You can learn to manage home responsibilities better,” said Mary Hunt, president of HomeAdvantage Plus. The company has given home management seminars as an employee benefit at a growing number of leading corporations.

The seminars emphasize planning, analyzing, organizing and prioritizing home cleaning—steps that work in the business world. Also key: Have the right tools.

“Get the best home cleaning equipment you can. You don't want to have to do the job twice,” Hunt recommends.

Take vacuuming, a high priority cleaning task, to see different ways to cut down on time. New technology, such as WindTunnel™ technology from Hoover®, makes vacuuming more efficient. Wind-Tunnel vacuums are designed for effective dirt pick-up and have a unique ducted system to keep dirt from being scattered back onto carpet. Because it reduces dirt



scatter, you can reduce time spent vacuuming.

With people working longer hours today, the big question asked in the seminars is how to get everything done in a limited amount of time. “Many people think housework will take care of itself, but it doesn't. Analyze your cleaning to see how to reduce steps and get results,” the corporate cleaning guru advises.

“Focus on the three ‘Ts’ of home management—technique, time and tools,” says Hunt.

Consider the bagless vacuum. With the Hoover WindTunnel Bagless vacuum, there's no time spent or bother, buying or changing bags. It's also a good idea to have a vacuum with a good set of tools so they're at hand when and where you need them. Remember vacuum tools can do multiple

tasks, from dusting to getting at dirt in tight spaces. A new turbine-powered hand tool from Hoover makes short work of cleaning stairs and upholstered furniture.

A major overall time-saver in the long run is to make lists, according to Hunt. “Learning to do housework in manageable chunks of time is the goal. If you make realistic lists for the entire week, you can see what needs to be done and accomplish the most important things,” she explains.

Another important piece of advice from the home management seminars: Make good use of your “staff”—your spouse and children. “The home generates real work but is typically an unstructured workplace with unclear roles and responsibilities. Delegate where you can,” she notes.

She also counsels people to set their own standards for home cleaning. “Everyone has his or her own comfort level for clean. You don't have to live up to the standards of your mother or neighbor,” she notes.

The bottom line to more efficient home cleaning: more time to do the things you like to do. “Good home cleaning provides the means to the end, to have more time to enjoy your home and your family,” says Hunt.

For more advice on faster, easier home cleaning, check out the Web sites, www.hoover.com and www.homeadvantageplus.com.