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# Clean your kitchen like a pro - or maybe win a day with one

BY RACHEL WHARTON

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Everybody talks about spring cleaning, but who actually has the time, let alone the desire? But this year, messy cooks are in luck. They can win a day with Laura Dellutri. The former Kansas cleaning company owner - now a book author and pundit on speed cleaning and cleaning products - is seeking the worst-looking kitchen at rescuemykitchen.com.

The winner (video or photo/essay submissions must be received by May 1) gets a mega-kitchen makeover courtesy of Dellutri and GE's CleanSteel appliances. To get a sense of the competition, we asked Dellutri for a few of her worst cleanup jobs ... and how to prevent them.

**HEAT, BUT DON'T EAT:** One client never cleaned her oven, says Dellutri, because she was afraid of unleashing toxic fumes into her tiny apartment. But she had "two inches of gross nasty grime," she groans, "that would burn and flavor every thing she put in the oven. "It had mozzarella cheese and I don't know what," says Dellutri. Instead of a day-long scrub job, Dellutri suggests cheating with Chef's Planet silicone oven liners, which typically run just \$20. For your stovetop, extra-hot water and a plastic putty knife will get rid of splashed grease, while the finest-grade steel wool can help take on stains around your burners without leaving scratches. And forget about trying to make your drip pans look new: Dellutri just keeps a new pair on hand to slip in when the in-laws come over.

**STICKY SITUATIONS:** "One time my foot stuck to a client's kitchen floor," says Dellutri. "She was a total slob." Even when she spilled juice, says Dellutri, "the concept of bending down with a paper towel just never occurred to her." Even those who try don't do it right, using the same dirty mop for months. Instead, get Swiffer WetJet with disposable cloths, says Dellutri. The product now comes with a boost of Febreze deodorizer. And since most New Yorkers keep mops in the coat closet - guilty as charged - your coat will benefit, too.

**DISHES, UNDONE:** A dishwasher covered with years of crud, lint and food was "one of the grossest things I had ever seen in my entire life," says Dellutri. "I wanted to get sick because I had just drank out of one of her glasses." Another woman went away for a week, turned down the air and left her dishes - still covered with food - in the sink. Dellutri found it "so full of mold and disgusting smells," she could barely touch it. Dellutri lets a once-a-month product called Dishwasher Magic to do the cleaning work for her, and "if you're gonna leave dishes in the sink, she says, "for the love of God wash them off and fill the sink with hot soapy water." New York City apartment dwellers who dream of making a passed-down stainless sink look like new, says Dellutri, should try a new product called Stainless Steel Sink and



This spring, your sloppy floors could win you a much-needed kitchen makeover.



Laura Dellutri

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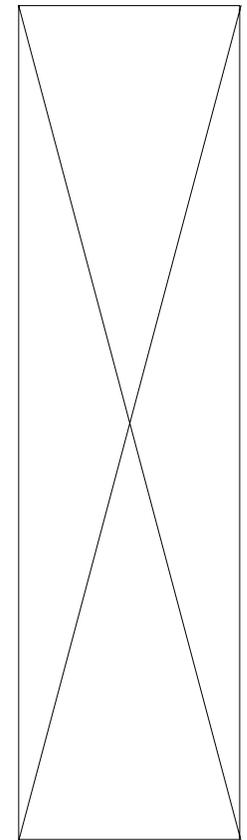
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Cookware Scratch Remover, which does the trick.

**ONE BOTTLE AT A TIME:** One client (Dellutri nicknamed her "the cat lady") once "had 40 cleaning bottles under the sink next to the kitty litter box. It was so stinky I almost fell over from the odor." Even without the litter, too many cleaners in your cabinets are a mess themselves, and you won't be tempted to use them. Instead, says Dellutri, try one all-purpose multisurface cleaner/degreaser/disinfectant, like Mr. Clean.

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