

Customer Guide

Safe Cleaning Equipment

Ensuring Safe Cleaning Equipment for Our Care Team

This Guide provides valuable information and tips to help you:

- Check your existing cleaning equipment and its features.
- Select safe and suitable equipment if you are considering replacing or purchasing cleaning equipment.

Why is it necessary to provide safe cleaning equipment for our care team members?

Your home is the care workers' workplace. Each week, care team members clean many homes and use various types of cleaning equipment. If the equipment is not in good working order, is unavailable, hard to use, or not suitable for the job or the team member, it can cause serious injury. This is why it is essential for you to provide suitable and safe equipment.

If your equipment does not meet these standards, you may need to repair, service, or replace the equipment to ensure it is safe. Please arrange for equipment to be repaired or serviced by a professional.

Please note: Not all the equipment listed below is necessary for Australian Unity to clean your home. The required equipment depends on the tasks the care team will perform for you and how often.

Equipment endorsed for use



Bedroom Equipment

- Beds with wheels (hospital style) have working brakes on all wheels
- Electric bed, remote/handheld device and electrical cords in a safe condition and bed serviced as recommended by supplier
- Standard bed has well maintained castors that glide easily
- Bed should be positioned away from the wall so care workers can access either side
- Mattress is light and easy to move
- Fitted sheets and lightweight quilt/duona preferable



Broom & Dustpan

- Height adjustable handle and lightweight (plastic/ aluminium)
- A static dust mop with rotating head may be a more suitable option indoors if large areas need to be swept (Suitable for wooden and tiled floors)
- Long handled dustpan preferable to short handled if used frequently



Bucket

- Lightweight, plastic bucket
- No cracks and a sturdy handle
- Push down or low foot pedal operated spin wringer on bucket
- If the bucket has wheels, it must have a brake to prevent it from moving when wringing the mop



Cleaning Products

- Must be in their original labelled containers
- Cannot contain bleach, chlorine or acids or noxious odours
- Meet the Chemical Guideline requirement



Clothes Line

- Clear, level access to the clothes line
- Clothes line is height adjustable and the handle is easy to turn
- Alternatively, a clothes drier or portable clothes line is available



Cloth Mitt/Glove/Dusters

- Large, thick cloth, sponge or mitt that can be held loosely with the palm flat
- Lightweight, long or extendable handle with rotating or angled head preferable
- A lightweight, dry mop can be used for reaching low areas



Iron

- Light weight, stable when sitting upright on the board or in a holder, has a comfortable grip, cord intact, controls working and removes creases easily



Ironing Board

- Light weight, height adjustable, which is easy to fold and unfold (Care workers will not iron on tables or low boards)



Laundry Trolley and Basket

- Wheels turn smoothly and it is easy to push
- Alternatively, a stool, chair or table is available under the clothes line to place basket on



Long Handled Cleaner

- Lightweight, height adjustable plastic or aluminum handle with rotating or angled head is preferable
- Attachments such as a cloth, scourer, scrubbing brush and or wiper blade can be interchanged with the handle
- A mop can be used for the shower recess, bath and around toilet



Mop

- Lightweight, plastic or aluminum mop with a smooth handle
- Height adjustable handle that locks into place
- Small, lightweight (microfibre or strip) mop head that fits into the wringer of the bucket
- Does not need to be hand wrung or mop head manually pulled through a roller ringer



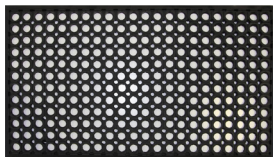
Old Towel

- Available to kneel on when working at low heights and wet areas



Scourer

- Large, thick scourer, that can be held with a flat palm



Slip Resistant Rubber Mat

- Suction caps underneath, to stand on in wet areas such as shower recess

Storage Equipment and Features

- All cleaning equipment is easy to get to and close to the area that needs cleaning.
- The vacuum cleaner is stored on the floor, cord wound up or retracted and wand upright. There are no other objects stored in front of the vacuum cleaner



Toilet

- Long handled toilet brush



Vacuum Cleaner

- Easy to push and pull over the carpet. Wheels glide easily and it is not heavy
- Easily removes dirt from the floor
- There is no air leaking from the hose or repairs made with tape
- The wand or handle is height adjustable and locks into place
- The cord is easy to pull out and retract
- The cord is intact (for example: is not repaired with tape)
- Easy to empty and change the bag
- Easy to use the attachments
- Easy to tilt the upright vacuum backwards to vacuum under furniture
- Handheld stick vacuum with a hold down trigger, can be used for small spaces and stairs, not suitable for vacuuming large areas



Washing Machine/Clothes Dryer

- Good working order
- Clear access in front of machine

More information

We appreciate your support in providing safe equipment for our care team. If you would like any more information or have any questions, please contact your local Australian Unity branch.