

## What does it take to become a **HOUSEKEEPER**?

Housekeeping is a very physically demanding job that includes many, varied tasks. They typically handle light cleaning needed for the upkeep of homes as well as commercial buildings, such as offices, hotels, and hospitals. Typically they'll replace bedding, clean rooms, halls and bathrooms, vacuum, sweep, mop, replace toiletries and make beds. They notify managers of necessary repairs, collect and dispose of trash, assist guests when necessary, keep linen rooms stocked and properly clean upholstered furniture. In the hospitality sector, they need to maintain a professional appearance and interact positively with guests.

### Skills & Knowledge

While a high school education isn't required, it certainly doesn't hurt. You should be able to perform simple arithmetic and be able to follow instructions. Employers often look for bilingual team members so that could be a huge advantage. Hotels and cleaning companies will expect you to be efficient and hardworking with a good eye for detail. You'll have to work well without direct supervision, whether you're working solo or with a team of other housekeepers. Housekeeping requires physical endurance; frequently standing or bending for many hours. Good housekeepers are trustworthy, caring and attentive.



### Training

Training is offered at registered training institutions. Many employers train apprentices on-the-job on various aspects of the work including how to use equipment safely, housekeeping tools and techniques, special surface care and maintenance, laundry, stain removal, ironing and folding, flower arrangements, valet and pet care.

### Working Conditions

Housekeepers clean up other people's messes for their entire shift, so you've got to really love the satisfaction that a freshly made bed and a stack of bleached towels brings to your life. Often, you will be on your hands and knees, and you'll need to be able to lift things on a regular basis, so staying physically fit will be important.

### Job Prospects

Housekeeping vacancies are on the rise especially given the fast-growing tourism and hospitality sector. Good, experienced and well trained housekeepers are in extremely high demand with ultra-high-net-worth families and high end hotels. The possibilities could be endless and you could even find yourself travelling or growing in your role and managing a team or a full estate. The key to climbing the career ladder, or finding these exciting jobs in the first place, is decent training and education.

You too can live your passion and qualify as a Housekeeper. If you are detail-oriented, physically fit and strong and possess strong problem solving skills, you are a good candidate.

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