

OTTAWA CONSTRUCTION CLEANING

Final Clean & Move-In Ready

Last-phase detailed cleaning before occupancy, punch-list cleaning, fixture polishing, and ensuring every surface meets builder or client standards.

4 Expert Answers from Clean IQ

ottawaconstructioncleaning.com/construction-brain

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Can the final clean crew handle touch-up painting and caulking gaps in my new Ottawa home?

Post-construction cleaning crews typically do not handle touch-up painting or caulking work — these are construction trades that require different skills, tools, and insurance coverage than cleaning services provide. Final cleaning happens after all construction work, including touch-ups and caulking, has been completed by the appropriate trades.

The proper sequence for your new Ottawa home should be construction completion first, followed by all touch-up work, then final cleaning last. **Touch-up painting and caulking are finishing carpentry and painting trades** that need to be done before the cleaning crew arrives. Paint needs time to cure properly — typically 24 to 48 hours in Ottawa's variable humidity conditions — before cleaning can begin around it. Fresh caulking requires 12 to 24 hours to skin over before it can be safely cleaned around.

Most cleaning contractors focus exclusively on their specialized trade and avoid taking on construction work for good reason. **Mixing cleaning and construction trades creates liability issues** because each requires different insurance coverage and expertise. A cleaning contractor's liability insurance typically excludes construction activities, while their WSIB coverage is structured for cleaning work, not carpentry or painting. Additionally, cleaning crews carry equipment designed for dust removal, surface cleaning, and debris disposal — not paint brushes, caulking guns, or construction materials.

Coordinating Trades Before Final Cleaning

In Ottawa's construction market, the standard practice is to have your general contractor or renovation team complete all touch-up painting and caulking before scheduling the final clean. **This includes filling nail holes, touching up scuffed paint, caulking gaps around trim and fixtures, and addressing any other finishing details.** The cleaning crew then comes in to remove construction dust, clean all surfaces, wash windows, scrub floors, and prepare the home for occupancy.

If you need touch-up painting and caulking work completed, budget between \$300 and \$1,200 depending on the scope — this covers minor paint touch-ups, caulking around windows and trim, and filling small holes or gaps. For a typical new Ottawa home, expect 4 to 8 hours of touch-up work by a qualified painter or finishing carpenter. The final cleaning then costs an additional \$1,200 to \$1,800 for a 1,500-square-foot home, bringing your total finishing budget to \$1,500 to \$3,000.

Winter construction in Ottawa often reveals more touch-up needs because the extreme temperature swings cause materials to expand and contract, opening small gaps that weren't visible during construction. Plan for

slightly more touch-up work if your home was built during Ottawa's harsh winter months when indoor humidity drops to 15-20 percent.

For both the finishing trades and final cleaning, you can find qualified contractors through the Ottawa Construction Network directory at justynrookcontracting.com, where painters, carpenters, and cleaning professionals are listed separately by trade specialty.

Q2

How much does a final clean cost for a 4,000 square foot executive home in Rockcliffe?

Final cleaning for a 4,000-square-foot executive home in Rockcliffe typically costs between \$2,000 and \$4,500, with most homeowners paying around \$3,200 for a comprehensive post-construction clean. The premium Rockcliffe location doesn't directly affect cleaning rates, but executive homes in this area often feature high-end finishes, multiple levels, and complex architectural details that require specialized cleaning techniques and additional time.

Factors Driving Costs in Executive Homes

Executive homes present unique cleaning challenges that justify the higher price range. **Multi-story layouts with cathedral ceilings, chandeliers, and skylights** require scaffolding or specialized ladder equipment, adding both time and safety considerations. Luxury finishes such as natural stone countertops, hardwood flooring, custom millwork, and high-end fixtures demand careful product selection and gentle cleaning methods to avoid damage. Many Rockcliffe executive homes feature **wine cellars, home theaters, and multiple fireplaces** that require specialized cleaning attention.

The sheer square footage means more surfaces to clean, but it's the complexity that drives costs higher. A 4,000-square-foot executive home typically takes a professional crew **12 to 16 hours to complete**, compared to 6 to 8 hours for a standard 2,000-square-foot home. **HVAC duct cleaning becomes more expensive** in larger homes with multiple zones and returns, often adding \$600 to \$1,200 to the total project cost.

Ottawa's extreme winter conditions particularly affect executive home cleaning. During heating season, the **bone-dry indoor air at 15 to 20 percent humidity** causes construction dust to become incredibly fine and persistent. Large homes with multiple HVAC zones circulate this dust throughout vast square footage, making thorough air filtration and duct cleaning essential. Spring cleaning after winter construction projects often reveals salt damage on stone surfaces and persistent dust in hard-to-reach areas of multi-story homes.

Window cleaning alone in a 4,000-square-foot executive home can cost \$400 to \$800, especially if the home features floor-to-ceiling windows, multiple dormers, or difficult-to-access second and third-story windows. Exterior pressure washing for driveways, walkways, and stone or brick facades adds another \$500 to \$1,000 to the total project.

For the most accurate pricing, always obtain **written quotes from at least three different contractors** who can assess the specific features and finishes in your home. The complexity of executive home cleaning makes on-site evaluation essential for accurate pricing. When you're ready to connect with experienced post-construction cleaning professionals familiar with high-end Ottawa homes, you can browse contractors through the Ottawa Construction Network directory at justynrookcontracting.com.

Q3

How much does a second-pass final clean cost if the first one missed areas in Ottawa?

A second-pass final clean in Ottawa typically costs 40 to 70 percent of the original cleaning fee, ranging from \$300 to \$1,200 depending on what was missed and the size of your home. Most reputable cleaning contractors will return to address missed areas at a reduced rate rather than charging full price for a complete re-clean.

The cost depends heavily on what specific areas were missed during the first cleaning. If the contractor missed obvious items like dusty light fixtures, streaky windows, or construction debris in corners, expect to pay on the lower end of that range since these are quick fixes. However, if major areas were overlooked — such as HVAC vents still packed with construction dust, floors that weren't properly scrubbed, or entire rooms that received inadequate attention — you're looking at costs closer to a full cleaning because the work involved is substantial.

In Ottawa's extreme climate conditions, second-pass cleaning often becomes necessary because fine construction dust behaves differently during our harsh winters. When indoor humidity drops to 15-20 percent during heating season, construction dust becomes incredibly fine and airborne, settling into areas that may not be immediately visible during the first clean. This dust can continue circulating through HVAC systems for days after the initial cleaning, requiring additional attention to vents, returns, and surfaces near heating registers.

Many Ottawa cleaning contractors offer a satisfaction guarantee that includes returning within 24-48 hours to address any missed areas at no additional charge, provided the issues are reported promptly. However, this typically covers minor touch-ups rather than major oversights. **A legitimate missed-area callback should cost between \$150 and \$400 for a typical Ottawa home,** while more extensive re-cleaning due to poor initial work can

run \$500 to \$800.

Spring is particularly challenging for post-construction cleaning in Ottawa because contractors are rushing to complete winter-delayed projects. This seasonal pressure sometimes leads to hurried cleaning jobs that require second passes. **Clay-rich Leda soil tracked in during construction creates persistent reddish-brown dust that bonds to surfaces and often requires specialized cleaning products and techniques that some contractors miss on the first attempt.**

Before agreeing to pay for additional cleaning, document the missed areas with photos and review your original contract to understand what was included. Many cleaning disputes arise from unclear expectations about scope of work. **Professional post-construction cleaning should include all visible surfaces, fixtures, floors, windows, and basic debris removal — if these weren't properly addressed, the contractor should return at minimal cost.**

When hiring for post-construction cleaning, always get detailed written quotes specifying exactly what's included and ask about their policy for addressing missed areas. The Ottawa Construction Network directory at justynrookcontracting.com lists cleaning contractors who can provide transparent pricing and clear scope definitions to help avoid these situations entirely.

Do final clean crews in Ottawa remove all construction stickers from windows and appliances?

Final clean crews in Ottawa typically do remove construction stickers and protective films from windows and appliances, but this should be explicitly confirmed in your cleaning contract. Most professional post-construction cleaning services include sticker and film removal as part of their standard final clean, recognizing that these protective materials are considered construction debris that must be removed before occupancy.

The removal process requires specific techniques and products to avoid damaging new surfaces. Professional cleaners use **heat guns or hair dryers** to warm adhesive stickers, making them easier to peel without leaving residue. For stubborn adhesive remnants, they apply **citrus-based solvents or commercial adhesive removers** that break down the glue without harming glass, stainless steel, or appliance finishes. New windows are particularly vulnerable to scratching, so experienced cleaners use **plastic scrapers rather than metal blades** and work carefully to avoid trapping grit particles under their tools.

In Ottawa's dry winter conditions, adhesive stickers become especially stubborn because low humidity causes the adhesive to cure harder. Construction stickers left on windows through a full Ottawa winter heating season can bond so firmly that removal requires professional-grade solvents and significant time. This is why many cleaning contractors prefer to remove protective films and stickers as soon as construction wraps up, rather than waiting until spring.

Ontario Building Code requirements for occupancy permits expect all construction materials and protective coverings to be removed before final inspection. This includes window films, appliance stickers, floor protection, and any temporary coverings. Leaving construction stickers in place can technically delay occupancy approval, though inspectors rarely focus on minor cosmetic details.

When hiring a final clean crew, **specifically ask whether sticker and film removal is included** in their quoted price. Some contractors charge extra for extensive adhesive removal, particularly if stickers have been in place for months. Expect to pay an additional **50 to 200 dollars** if your home has numerous appliances, windows, or fixtures with stubborn protective films. For a typical Ottawa home, complete sticker removal adds 1 to 3 hours to the cleaning timeline.

Professional removal is worth the cost because improper techniques can permanently damage new surfaces. Scratched glass, marred stainless steel, and damaged appliance finishes are expensive to repair or replace. The Ottawa Construction Network directory at justynrookcontracting.com lists experienced cleaning contractors who understand proper adhesive removal techniques for Ottawa's climate conditions.

Disclaimer: This guide is provided for informational purposes only by Ottawa Construction Cleaning. It does not constitute professional advice. Always consult qualified, licensed contractors and your local building authority before starting any post-construction cleaning or renovation cleanup project. Information is current as of May 24, 2026 and may change. Visit ottawaconstructioncleaning.com for the latest answers.