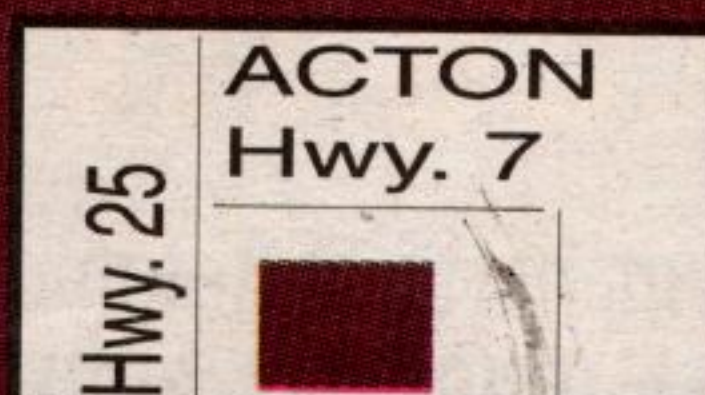




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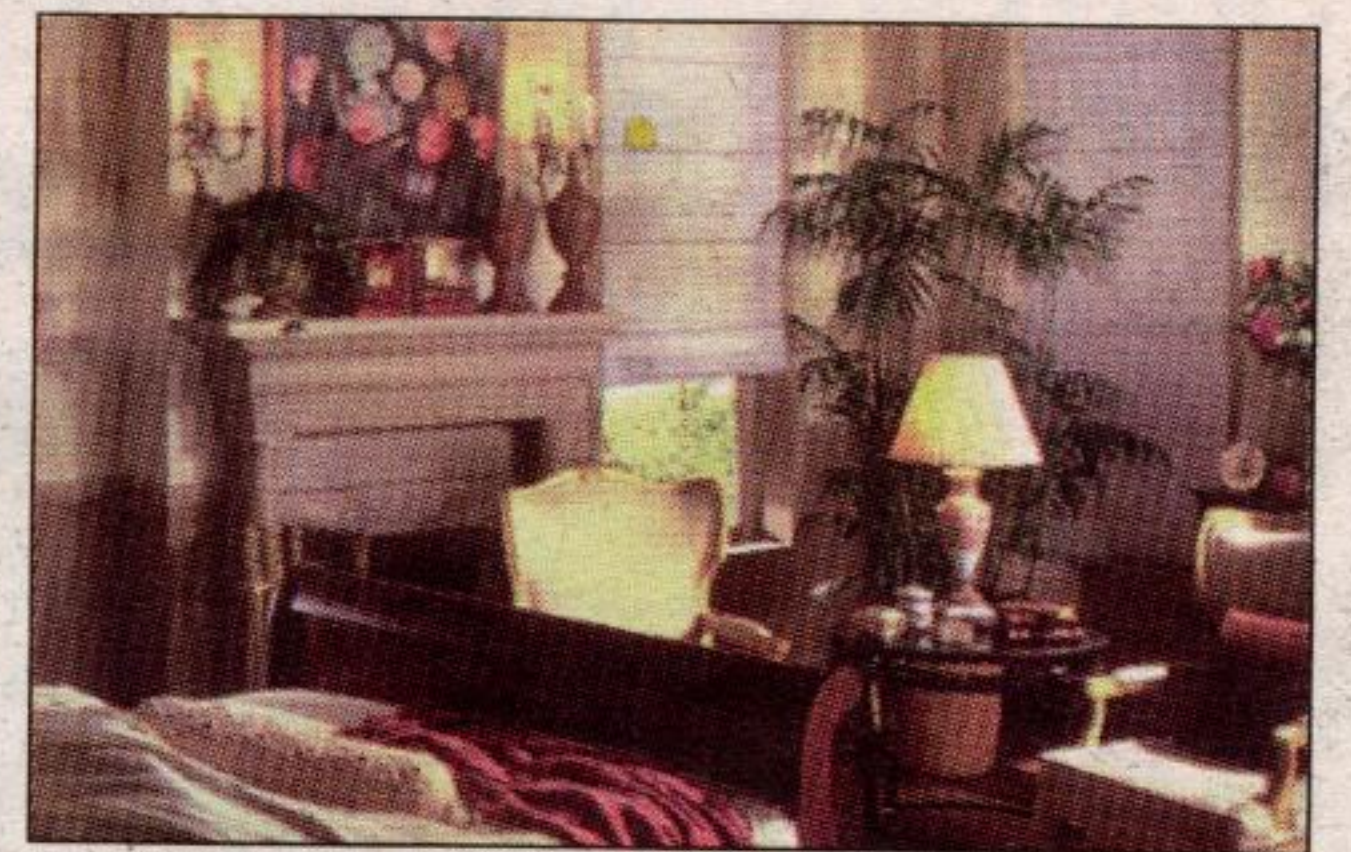
## Make spring cleaning easier by following a simple checklist

While spring cleaning is much more fun once it's over, the toughest thing about it is getting started. To get geared up, follow this simple take-charge checklist to make top-to-bottom cleaning faster and easier.

- Look at each room, identify specific tasks and make a list of cleaning priorities
- Eliminate clutter in drawers, boxes and closets (recycle it, donate it or toss it)
- Take inventory of the cleaning tools you need so you only have to make one trip to the store
- Don't answer the phone, turn off the television and turn on your favourite music
- Open the windows to air out the house
- Take all cleaning tools with you to each room to avoid unnecessary trips back and forth

Now that your house is in top form, make sure that you are also prepared for the endless parties and gatherings that you will inevitably host.

If you're one of the over 12.5 million Canadians with an AIR MILES card, make your money go further by redeeming your reward miles for various entertaining needs. The program provides guiltless indulgence through over 500 non-flight rewards, including everything from a George Foreman grill and Cusinart mini



prep plus chopper/grinder, to a Delonghi espresso maker, wine cooler and Oster juicer.

In terms of planning menus for your spring soirées, mochasofa.ca offers the following advice for easy entertaining:

- Serve a one-course meal of appetizers or have a fondue party if you can't decide on a main course or are worried about your guests' food preferences
  - Choose dishes that complement one another in flavour, colour and texture
  - Combine foods of varying temperatures, flavours, colours and textures
  - Go from light and fresh tastes to more intense flavours — build the flavours so that a spicy appetizer doesn't overshadow a delicate entrée
- Finally, when you have a sparkling, organized house, and your party planning in order, sit back, relax and congratulate yourself on a job well done.

—News Canada

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