

How to Mop a Good Floor

A Monologue

by

Jay Dover

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# How to Mop a Good Floor

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CAST: GUY FRANK, 30's, fast-food manager

TIME: Present, closing shift

PLACE: A McDonald's restaurant

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*Lights up on Guy Frank, manager of a McDonald's restaurant. He holds a dry mop and talks to Chris, 16, new employee. It is the end of the closing shift.*

## GUY

Now. The secret to mopping a good floor is in your hips. That's right, the hips. Not the mop head, like most people think. Nope, right here. The entire pelvic region. You want a good floor mop, you got to use the hips. Okay, Chris? Now. Let me show you how it's done. Come on over here. Come on, it's not going to bite you. Come on over. Okay. Now. The first thing is, get a good, firm grip on the handle. Use both hands, one on the top, the other about a foot and half down the shaft, like this. See that? Good and solid, like you're pole vaulting. Right? You know pole vaulting, right? Yeah. Now. Put your feet slightly apart. Bend your knees. See that? I'm in total control of this mop. I can make it go wherever I want it to go. It's not pushing me around, I'm pushing it around and that's exactly the kind of relationship you want with your mop. Now, remember what I said earlier there? The secret I was talking about, eh Chris? Don't be shy, come on. What's the secret to a good floor mop? The hips, that's right, sport. Good. Okay. Now. What you want to do is sway your hips one way, then counter sway the other way. Sweet and simple. Sway, counter sway. Sway, counter sway. One fluid motion of the hips. Sway, counter, sway, counter, like you're dancing with your sweetheart there, right? This way, it's easy to keep the mop head on the floor one hundred percent, and that's exactly what we want here. One hundred percent mop head area coverage in a three by three square. That'll guarantee a good floor mop every time. Now. I know what you're thinking. It's just mopping and it's no big deal and it sucks, right? Am I right there, sport? Come on, don't be shy. It sucks, don't it? But hey.

I'll tell you what most people don't know. It's the most important job in this restaurant. Don't matter how good Teddy or Mitch are behind the grill. People see a dirty floor, they'll turn around and walk right out. For me, mopping a good floor is job number one. Everything else comes second. Got that? Okay. Now. Let's see you give it go there, sport. You ready? Ready? Okay. Go ahead, wring out your mop. Let's see your grip. Good. Bend the knees, that's right. Now, sway, counter, sway, counter, that's it, sway, counter. Yeah, there you go. You got it. Nothing to it, eh Chris? Remember, just a three by three square, then rinse, then start again. Piece of cake, huh? Hey, you want to hear some music? You can if you want. I let Rick listen to that group 42 Degrees or something last night. Not my kind of music but he likes it. Anything to help get your hips in the right motion. What kind of music do you like to listen to? No? You sure, it's okay. You sure? Okay. Sway, counter. Yeah, like I said, mopping a good floor is job number one and a heckuva responsibility, Chris. A heckuva lot of responsibility. And I'll tell you one thing for sure, sport, if you take on this responsibility and do a good job, you got yourself a ticket to the good life. Just ask Teddy. You know Teddy, right? Six weeks ago he was just like you. But he took to this mop like it was his best friend. And now, six weeks later? He and Mitch are running the grill for the dinner shifts. Ain't that something? Just six weeks and look what can happen. Sway, counter. Alright, rinse. Yeah, it's no secret why this McDonalds is the number one unit in the district. Making a McDonald's hamburger is serious business, sport. My wife's always on because I spend so much time here. But heck, if you want to be number one... I mean, right this morning she says to me, "all you're doing is flipping burgers, Guy, how hard can it be, Guy." Sway, counter. She doesn't know the first thing about it. I'm not just flipping burgers here, sport, I'll tell you that. I cook up 300 hamburgers a day, 2,100 hamburgers a week, 110,000 hamburgers a year. I'm pushing a lot of cow through here, Chris. Not to mention pickles, onions, ketchup, buns, special sauce. It's like conducting a symphony 28 hours a day. A symphony of condiments, bread and meat! Eh, sport? Serious business. A McDonald's hamburger is an American institution, like a high school diploma or a driver's license and it's my responsibility to make sure that every customer who walks in here gets the best McDonald's hamburger I can make, every single time. They want it, they expect it, they deserve it. Counter, sway. Okay, rinse it. And it's all worth it, Chris, I'll tell you that. When I watch the little boys and girls come in here and dig through their happy meals and pull out the hamburger and they take that first big bite. Boy, I'll tell ya. They're like little angels. Smiling, laughing, having the time of their life, I'll tell you that. I watch them and I think, there it is, right there. That's why I do this. To watch little boys and girls smile and turn into angels.

**Wonder what happens next?**

For a copy of the full script, email me at:

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Thanks!