

Spring Home Maintenance Checklist

Prepare for warm weather, hunt down winter damage, and stay on top of regular maintenance. Check for water damage, change filters, and get your yard ready for summer. Your home will love the TLC.

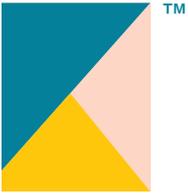


Inspect your basement and attic for winter damage

Task	Date Completed	Notes
Check attic and basement for signs of pests, such as mounds of wood dust, holes, droppings, or fur.		
Inspect basement walls for bulging, buckling, or cracks larger than 1/8 inch.		
Check basement and attic for water and water damage.		
Inspect attic rafters and sheathing for sagging, cracks, rot, mold, water stains, or any other damage. Repair problems ASAP.		
Look for gaps or damage in your attic insulation. Fill any gaps.		

Clean your appliances and fixtures

Task	Date Completed	Notes
Clean dryer ductwork and vents. Detach ductwork and use a vacuum cleaner, brush, or air compressor to remove trapped lint		
Check washing machine hoses for leaks.		
Run faucets and check plumbing beneath sinks for leaks.		



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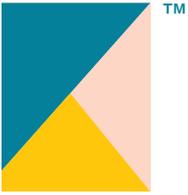


Clean your appliances and fixtures (con't)

Task	Date Completed	Notes
Replace or clean appliance filters. Bathroom fans, range hoods, water purifiers, dishwashers, washing machines, and dryers usually have filters.		
Replace loose or missing caulking around tubs, showers, sinks, toilets, and countertops.		

Make sure your yard is ready to enjoy

Task	Date Completed	Notes
Remove unstable tree limbs near roof or siding.		
Inspect porches and decks. Repair rotted joists, floorboards, and railings.		
Tune up lawn equipment. See manuals for info about sparkplugs, filters, oil, and other upkeep.		
Look for large puddles in your yard. Standing water that lingers for hours after it rains could mean your yard has a drainage or grading issue.		
Repair large cracks and uneven surfaces in sidewalks, driveways, and cement steps to prevent injuries.		
If you have a septic system, inspect the ground above it for dampness or bad smells. If you find these issues, have a professional take a look.		



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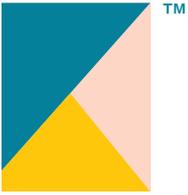


Repair your doors, windows, and siding

Task	Date Completed	Notes
Fix missing, loose, or damaged siding. If painted, look for blisters or peeling and repaint as needed.		
Check for termites. Look for holes in wood, mounds of wood dust, or a hollow sound when you tap.		
Repair damaged doors and windows. Lubricate hinges, cranks, locks, and other hardware.		
Install screens in windows and doors.		

Service your HVAC equipment to stay cool

Task	Date Completed	Notes
Schedule air-conditioning service.		
Replace or clean HVAC filters. Most air conditioners have filters, and they may be hidden behind vents on walls, ceilings, and floors.		
Switch direction of ceiling fans (counterclockwise).		
Flush your hot water heater tank and other HVAC equipment to remove sediment.		
Program thermostats for warmer weather. Try 68° when you're typically at home, and 76° while you're away or sleeping.		



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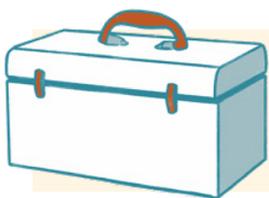


Ready your roof, gutters, and downspouts for harsh sun and heavy rain

Task	Date Completed	Notes
Hire a roofer to repair missing, loose, or damaged roofing shingles, slates, tiles.		
Inspect roof edge, soffit, and fascia for damage or rot. Hire a professional to repair problems ASAP.		
Check roof near chimneys, walls, and vents for corroded or loose flashing, and worn or missing sealant. If you find any issues, have a professional take a look.		
Remove anything growing on roof. Hire a pro to clean anything you can't reach from your ladder.		

Prepare for fire safety and emergencies

Task	Date Completed	Notes
Test smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. Most have a "test" button.		
Check all fire extinguishers for proper tank pressure. Most have a pressure gauge near the handle.		
Test GCFI (grounded) outlets. They should have a "test" button that turns the outlet off, and a "reset" button to turn it back on.		
Update emergency phone numbers.		



Fall Home Maintenance Checklist →