

## Home Maintenance Checklist for Every Homeowner

### Monthly Maintenance Tasks:

\_\_\_\_\_ **HVAC System:** Inspect and clean your HVAC filters. Clogged filters reduce efficiency and strain the system. Replace filters if necessary.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Range Hood:** Clean the filters and vent of your range hood to prevent grease buildup, which can hinder its functionality. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for cleaning.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Safety Devices:** Test your smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors, and fire extinguishers to ensure they are working properly. Replace batteries or devices as needed.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Water Leaks:** Check for any signs of water leaks, especially around faucets, toilets, and under sinks. Address leaks promptly to prevent water damage and mold growth.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Garbage Disposal:** Inspect and clean your garbage disposal regularly to remove any buildup or debris. Run a combination of ice cubes and lemon peels through it to keep it smelling fresh.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Refrigerator:** Vacuum the refrigerator coils to remove dust and debris. Clean the interior and check for any food spills or expired items.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Lighting:** Check and replace light bulbs as needed to maintain adequate illumination throughout your home. Consider switching to energy-efficient LED bulbs.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Window and Door Screens:** Inspect and clean window and door screens. Repair any tears or holes to keep bugs and debris out while allowing fresh air in.

## Spring Maintenance Tasks:

\_\_\_\_\_ **Trees and Shrubs:** Trim trees and shrubs away from the house to prevent damage from branches during storms. Ensure plants are not touching the exterior walls, as they can trap moisture.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Exterior Paint:** Check the exterior paint for any signs of damage or wear. Touch up any areas as necessary to protect against moisture penetration.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Outdoor Faucets:** Test and clean outdoor faucets. Check for leaks and repair any issues. Ensure the water supply is turned off during freezing temperatures to prevent pipe damage.

\_\_\_\_\_ **HVAC Maintenance:** Schedule professional HVAC service in the spring to ensure your system is operating efficiently and identify any potential problems.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Driveway and Walkways:** Inspect and repair any cracks or gaps in the driveway and walkways. Fill cracks and apply sealant to prevent further deterioration.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Windows:** Clean and inspect windows and window sills. Check for any damaged seals or cracks. Repair or replace as needed.

## Summer Maintenance Tasks:

\_\_\_\_\_ **Deck or Patio:** Clean and repair your deck or patio. Remove debris, check for loose boards or nails, and reseal or repaint if necessary.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Outdoor Furniture:** Inspect and clean outdoor furniture. Check for any signs of damage, repair as needed, and clean cushions or upholstery.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Caulking:** Check and repair caulking around windows and doors. Proper caulking prevents drafts and water intrusion.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Swimming Pool and/or Hot Tub:** Clean and maintain your swimming pool or hot tub according to the manufacturer's instructions. Monitor chemical levels and check for any necessary repairs.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Barbecue Grill:** Clean and repair your barbecue grill. Remove grease buildup, inspect gas lines, and ensure burners are functioning properly.

## Fall Maintenance Tasks:

**Gutters and Downspouts:** Clear fallen leaves and debris from gutters and downspouts. Clogged gutters can lead to water damage and roof issues.

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**Chimney:** Inspect and clean the chimney before the heating season. Hire a professional chimney sweep to remove creosote buildup and inspect to ensure safe operation.

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**Weatherstripping:** Check and repair weatherstripping around windows and doors. This helps maintain energy efficiency and prevents drafts.

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**Sump Pump:** Test and maintain the sump pump. Ensure it's in good working condition to prevent basement flooding during heavy rains.

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**Outdoor Faucets and Irrigation:** Winterize outdoor faucets and irrigation systems before freezing temperatures arrive. Drain water and insulate exposed pipes to avoid burst pipes.

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**Dryer Vent:** Inspect and clean the dryer vent to remove lint buildup. Clogged vents are a fire hazard and reduce dryer efficiency.

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## Winter Maintenance Tasks:

**Heating System:** Test and maintain the heating system. Replace filters, clean ducts, and ensure all components are functioning correctly.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Consider scheduling a professional inspection.

**Fireplace and/or Wood-Burning Stove:** Inspect and clean the fireplace or wood-burning stove. Remove any debris, clean the flue, and  
\_\_\_\_\_ check for proper operation.

**Insulation:** Check insulation in the attic and walls. Add more insulation  
\_\_\_\_\_ if needed to improve energy efficiency and maintain comfortable indoor temperatures.

**Water Heater:** Test and maintain the water heater. Drain sediment,  
\_\_\_\_\_ check for leaks, and adjust the temperature if necessary.

**Drafts:** Check for drafts around windows and doors. Seal any gaps or  
\_\_\_\_\_ cracks with weatherstripping or caulking to improve energy efficiency.

**Humidifiers:** Clean and maintain humidifiers according to the  
\_\_\_\_\_ manufacturer's instructions. Regular maintenance prevents mold growth and ensures proper operation.

## Annual Maintenance Tasks:

**Termite Inspection:** Schedule a professional termite inspection to detect and address any termite infestation before it causes significant damage.

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**Safety Devices:** Replace the batteries in smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors annually, even if they are still functioning. Ensure they are in proper working order.

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**Septic System:** Inspect and clean the septic system according to the recommended schedule. Regular maintenance prevents backups and system failures.

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**Chimney Cleaning:** Schedule a professional chimney cleaning annually to remove creosote buildup and ensure safe operation.

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