

Winter Home Maintenance Checklist

1. Roof & Gutters

- ☐ Inspect roof for loose, missing, or curled shingles
- ☐ Check flashing around vents and chimneys
- ☐ Clean gutters and downspouts
- ☐ Ensure downspouts drain at least 5 ft from foundation
- ☐ Install gutter guards (optional)
- ☐ Remove heavy snow from roof after storms (use roof rake)

2. Doors, Windows & Insulation

- ☐ Check for drafts around windows and doors
- ☐ Apply weatherstripping or caulk gaps
- ☐ Install storm windows or window film
- ☐ Add door sweeps to prevent heat loss
- ☐ Insulate attic access hatch
- ☐ Seal gaps around pipes, vents, and electrical openings

3. Plumbing & Pipes

- ☐ Insulate exposed pipes (basement, crawl space, garage)
- ☐ Disconnect and drain outdoor hoses
- ☐ Shut off exterior faucets; install insulated covers
- ☐ Let indoor faucets drip during extreme cold
- ☐ Keep home thermostat at least 55 F (even when away)
- ☐ Know where your main water shut-off valve is

4. Heating System & Fireplace

- ☐ Schedule professional HVAC inspection
- ☐ Replace or clean air filters monthly
- ☐ Check thermostat batteries
- ☐ Clean and inspect chimney or flue
- ☐ Stock up on firewood (if applicable)
- ☐ Test carbon monoxide and smoke detectors

5. Yard & Exterior

- ☐ Trim tree branches near roof or power lines
- ☐ Rake and clear debris around the foundation
- ☐ Seal cracks in driveway and walkways
- ☐ Store patio furniture and garden tools
- ☐ Cover outdoor grills and A/C units
- ☐ Drain and store sprinklers or irrigation hoses

6. Power Outage Prep

- ☐ Test generator and check fuel supply
- ☐ Stock flashlights and fresh batteries
- ☐ Keep portable chargers ready
- ☐ Store bottled water and nonperishable food
- ☐ Have blankets and warm clothes accessible
- ☐ Keep snow shovels, salt, and sand handy

7. Safety & Miscellaneous

- ☐ Review home insurance coverage
- ☐ Check attic and basement for leaks or dampness
- ☐ Test sump pump
- ☐ Replace worn weather seals on garage doors
- ☐ Ensure emergency contacts are updated
- ☐ Make a list of local contractors (plumber, roofer, electrician)

"An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." - Benjamin Franklin

Regular winter prep not only keeps your home warm and safe but can also save you hundreds or even thousands on repairs.