



## Winter Home Maintenance Checklist

### Exterior Home and Yard Maintenance

- Clean out gutters
- Turn off exterior faucets
- Replace outdoor light bulbs as needed
- Scan the roof for damage and repair if necessary
- Clean and store patio or deck furniture
- Cover garden beds
- Cover the grill and store propane tanks
- Ensure that deck handrails can support someone if they fall in icy conditions
- Inspect security equipment for damage from winter conditions
- Caulk around doors and windows
- Drain hoses and any lawn irrigation equipment
- Make sure snow shovels are accessible, and clear walkways and doorways of snow
- In the case of ice damming, use heat trace wire at the edge of the roof prior to freezing
- Empty and cover the swimming pool
- Empty planters and pots to prevent cracks from freezing dirt
- Shovel any snow from wooden decks
- Remove heavy snow from branches of trees and shrubs
- Maintain clear access to the mailbox
- Avoid damage to grass by not walking on frozen lawn
- Prune trees, especially branches near the house
- In case of broken gas line or downed power lines, report incidents immediately

## Interior Maintenance

- Have your heating system and ducts inspected by a professional
- Ensure proper insulation and seal air leaks, especially in crawl spaces and the attic
- Test your sump pump for proper functionality
- Make sure all areas of home are sufficiently lit in the absence of sunlight
- Have a professional clean and inspect the fireplace, boilers, oil heaters, woodstove, and any other heating appliances
- Replace or clean the furnace filters monthly
- Use weather-strips on doors that lead to outside areas
- Increase ventilation if condensation appears on windows
- Wrap and insulate pipes and waterlines; use heat trace wire with pipes in extreme cold
- Clean windows for maximum sunlight warmth
- Turn on the humidifier

## Garage Maintenance

- Avoid salt damage by periodically sealing and cleaning the garage floor
- Keep the garage door clear of snow so that you can get your car in and out
- Insulate any water pipes in the garage as needed
- Make sure the hinges and springs of the door are adequately lubricated
- Add new weather stripping to prevent cold air from entering at the bottom of the garage door
- Organize the garage, storing away spring and summer tools. Drain fuel from gas equipment.
- Test manual operation of the garage door.



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