



# Fall Checklist

## Welcome Fall in Your Forever Home

Your new home is built to support you through every season, but a little preparation ensures you'll get the most out of your space. With this checklist, you'll stay ahead of the season's challenges and enjoy all the beauty fall has to offer. From falling leaves to cozy nights, autumn in your Forever Home is sure to be memorable!

### OUTDOOR TASKS

- **Inspect the Roof:** Look for damaged or missing shingles and make any necessary repairs before winter arrives.
- **Clean Gutters and Downspouts:** Remove leaves and debris to ensure proper drainage and prevent water damage or ice dams in winter.
- **Trim Trees and Bushes:** Prune back branches that could break during storms and damage your home or power lines.
- **Rake and Remove Leaves:** Keep your yard tidy and prevent leaves from piling up near your foundation, which can attract pests or trap moisture.
- **Seal Cracks in Driveways and Walkways:** Repair small cracks to prevent water from seeping in and freezing, which can cause further damage.
- **Drain and Store Garden Hoses:** Disconnect hoses, drain them completely, and store them indoors to prevent freezing. Shut off outdoor faucets if they're not frost-proof.
- **Swap Out Your Summer Tools:** Clean and put away tools like lawnmowers and garden equipment. Prepare snow shovels or your snowblower for the months ahead.

## INDOOR TASKS

- **Test Heating Systems:** Turn on your furnace to ensure it's working properly. Replace the filter and schedule a professional inspection if needed.
- **Check Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Detectors:** Replace batteries and test all devices to keep your home safe as you begin using heating systems.
- **Inspect Windows and Doors:** Look for drafts and seal gaps with weatherstripping or caulking to improve energy efficiency.
- **Check Insulation:** Ensure your attic, basement, and crawl spaces are well-insulated to keep your home warm and reduce energy costs.
- **Inspect and Clean Dryer Vents:** Clear out lint buildup in dryer vents to improve efficiency and reduce the risk of fire.
- **Adjust Ceiling Fans:** Switch ceiling fans to rotate clockwise on a low setting to help circulate warm air in your home.
- **Service Your Fireplace:** If your home has a wood-burning or gas fireplace, have it inspected and cleaned to ensure it's ready for use.

## FALL HOME HELPERS

- Give your windows a deep cleaning and try to keep curtains open during the day to let in natural light and help warm your home. Close them at night to retain heat.
- Gather blankets, candles, and extra batteries to be prepared for the upcoming cold weather.
- This is a good time do deep clean carpets and rugs thoroughly before bundling up the house for the winter months.

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