

2026 Fall & Winter Home Maintenance Guide

Your seasonal checklist for protecting your home, preventing costly repairs, and preparing for colder weather.

Prepared by Linda Trevor & Co.

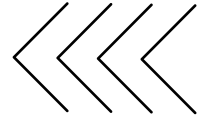
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GET YOUR HOME READY FOR THE SEASON



A LITTLE MAINTENANCE NOW CAN SAVE A LOT LATER

As the seasons change, your home needs a little attention too. Taking care of small maintenance items now can help prevent bigger problems, improve energy efficiency, and keep your home comfortable throughout the colder months.

Use this guide to work through the most important fall and winter maintenance tasks. You don't have to tackle everything at once. Check off items as you go and call in a professional when a job is outside your comfort zone.

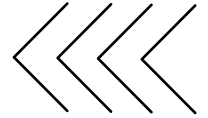
FALL IS A GREAT TIME TO:

- ☐ Catch small roof or exterior problems before winter weather arrives
- ☐ Make sure your heating system is ready for colder temperatures
- ☐ Seal drafts that can increase heating costs
- ☐ Clear leaves and debris that can cause drainage problems
- ☐ Prepare outdoor plumbing and landscaping for freezing temperatures
- ☐ Test important safety equipment throughout your home

TIP: Keep this guide handy throughout the season and make notes about repairs or projects you want to revisit in the spring.



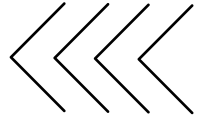
FALL: OUTSIDE MAINTENANCE CHECKLIST



- ☐ **Inspect the roof** - Look for missing, loose, cracked, or damaged shingles and signs of wear around flashing, vents, and roof penetrations.
- ☐ **Clean gutters and downspouts** - Remove leaves and debris and make sure water is directed away from your foundation.
- ☐ **Check exterior drainage** - Watch for areas where water collects near the house and make sure soil and landscaping allow water to flow away from the foundation.
- ☐ **Inspect windows and doors** - Check weatherstripping and caulk around openings where cold air or moisture could enter.
- ☐ **Prepare outdoor faucets and hoses** - Disconnect garden hoses, drain them, and protect exposed outdoor plumbing before freezing temperatures arrive.
- ☐ **Tidy trees and landscaping** - Trim damaged or potentially hazardous branches and clear leaves and debris from around the home.



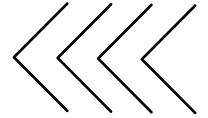
FALL: INSIDE MAINTENANCE CHECKLIST



- ☐ **Schedule HVAC maintenance** - Have your heating system inspected and replace or clean filters as recommended.
- ☐ **Test smoke and carbon monoxide detectors** - Replace batteries if needed and confirm every detector is working properly.
- ☐ **Check your fireplace and chimney** - If you use a wood-burning fireplace, consider having the chimney inspected and cleaned before the first fire of the season.
- ☐ **Clean the dryer vent** - Lint buildup can reduce efficiency and create a fire hazard.
- ☐ **Check your attic and crawl space** - Look for signs of moisture, pests, damaged insulation, or other issues that may become worse during winter.



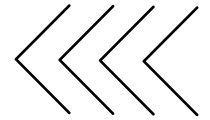
WINTER MAINTENANCE CHECKLIST



- ☐ **Protect pipes from freezing** - Insulate vulnerable pipes in unheated spaces and know where your main water shutoff is located.
- ☐ **Keep your home heated** - Even when you're away, maintain enough heat to help protect plumbing and other systems during freezing weather.
- ☐ **Check for drafts** - Feel around windows, doors, attic access points, and other openings for cold air. Weatherstripping or caulk may help with minor leaks.
- ☐ **Check insulation** - Proper attic and crawl-space insulation can help maintain indoor temperatures and reduce strain on your heating system.
- ☐ **Keep heating vents clear** - Move furniture, rugs, curtains, and other items away from supply and return vents.
- ☐ **Monitor your roof and gutters** - After storms or periods of freezing weather, look for visible damage, clogged drainage, or signs of water intrusion.
- ☐ **Watch for moisture problems** - Check ceilings, walls, windows, basements, and crawl spaces for condensation, leaks, or unusual dampness.



NEED A LITTLE HELP?



YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO EVERYTHING YOURSELF

Some seasonal maintenance projects are easy weekend tasks. Others require the right tools, experience, or professional expertise.

Depending on your home, you may want help from a professional.

HVAC Professional | Roofing Professional | Landscaper or Tree Service | Chimney or Fireplace Professional | Plumber | Gutter or Exterior Maintenance Professional

LOOKING FOR SOMEONE YOU CAN TRUST?

Over the years, Linda Trevor & Co. has built relationships with local businesses and service professionals who can help with many of the projects that come with owning a home.

[VIEW OUR TRUSTED BUSINESS PARTNERS](#)

From home repairs and maintenance to services you may need before or after a move, our online directory is a great place to start.



MAINTENANCE TODAY CAN HELP WHEN IT'S TIME TO SELL

A WELL-MAINTAINED HOME MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Even if selling isn't on your radar right now, keeping up with routine maintenance can pay off when the time eventually comes.

Buyers notice signs that a home has been cared for. Clean gutters, a serviced HVAC system, a sound roof, properly maintained exterior surfaces, and repaired leaks or moisture issues can all contribute to a stronger first impression.

Regular maintenance can also help identify problems while they're still manageable. That means fewer deferred-maintenance surprises when a future buyer has the home inspected.



THINKING ABOUT SELLING IN 2027?

You don't have to wait until you're ready to put a sign in the yard to start preparing.

Linda Trevor & Co. can help you look at your home through a buyer's eyes and determine which repairs, updates, or improvements may be worth considering before you sell, and which ones may not be worth the time or expense.

Planning ahead gives you more options and less pressure.

Ready to talk about your next move?

Linda Trevor & Co. | LindaTrevor.com | 919-378-1807

