

Spring Home Maintenance Checklist

A practical Iowa-focused checklist to help homeowners recover from winter and prepare for warmer weather.

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Use this checklist once winter weather starts to ease so you can catch seasonal damage early, improve curb appeal and get your home ready for spring and summer.

1) ROOF, GUTTERS & EXTERIOR

- ☐ Inspect shingles, flashing and roof edges for winter wind, ice or snow damage.
- ☐ Clean gutters and downspouts and make sure water drains away from the foundation.
- ☐ Look for cracked caulk, peeling paint, loose siding or damaged trim.
- ☐ Check decks, porches, steps and railings for movement, rot or winter damage.
- ☐ Inspect exterior lighting and replace burned-out bulbs before longer outdoor evenings.

2) FOUNDATION, BASEMENT & DRAINAGE

- ☐ Walk the foundation and look for new cracks, settling or areas where water collects.
- ☐ Check the basement or crawl space for dampness, musty odors or signs of seepage.
- ☐ Test the sump pump before spring storms and confirm the discharge line is clear.
- ☐ Regrade low spots near the house so water moves away from the foundation.
- ☐ Clean window wells and make sure covers and drains are secure.

3) HVAC, WINDOWS & INDOOR AIR

- ☐ Replace the furnace or HVAC filter and schedule cooling-system service if needed.
- ☐ Test the air conditioner before the first hot day so problems are found early.
- ☐ Clean window tracks and screens; repair torn screens before opening windows regularly.
- ☐ Check bathroom and kitchen exhaust fans and clean dust from covers and vents.
- ☐ Inspect for condensation or moisture around windows, attic areas and exterior walls.

4) PLUMBING & WATER SYSTEMS

- ☐ Turn exterior faucets back on carefully and check hose bibs for leaks or freeze damage.
- ☐ Reconnect garden hoses only after freezing temperatures are no longer expected.
- ☐ Check under sinks, around toilets and near appliances for slow leaks or moisture.
- ☐ Flush the water heater if recommended for your system and check around it for leaks.
- ☐ Inspect sprinkler or irrigation systems for broken heads, leaks or winter damage.

5) YARD, TREES & CURB APPEAL

- ☐ Rake leftover leaves and winter debris from lawn, beds and drainage areas.
- ☐ Trim dead or damaged branches and check trees for storm or ice damage.
- ☐ Edge beds, refresh mulch and clean up shrubs around the front entry.
- ☐ Inspect fences, gates and retaining walls for movement or damage.
- ☐ Wash exterior windows and clean the front door, porch and house numbers.

6) GARAGE, SAFETY & SPRING PREP

- ☐ Inspect the garage door, tracks, rollers and auto-reverse safety feature.
- ☐ Test smoke and carbon-monoxide detectors and replace batteries if needed.
- ☐ Check fire extinguishers and review your household emergency supplies.
- ☐ Clean dryer vents and vacuum dust from refrigerator coils and utility areas.
- ☐ If you plan to sell this spring or summer, make a short repair and curb-appeal priority list.

Thinking about selling this spring or summer?

Spring is a great time to handle small repairs, improve curb appeal and get ahead of listing preparation. If you'd like a pre-listing walk-through or want to talk about value and timing, I'd be glad to help.