



Preparing Your Home For Winter

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1. Check Your HVAC (Heating, Ventilation, and Cooling) System

- Schedule a tune-up.
- Have your system cleaned and inspected by your trusted HVAC contractor
- Check that the venting for your heating system and water heater is properly installed and unobstructed.
- Order replacement filters for the season.
- Inspect your air ducts to determine if they need cleaning. *One way to check is by removing a return register—if it's visibly dirty, it's time for a professional duct cleaning.*
- Cover your outdoor condensing unit to keep debris, snow, and water off the fan. *Be sure to leave at least 8 inches of space from the ground to allow proper airflow and reduce rust and corrosion.*

2. Ensure Your Chimney is Clean

- Hire a professional to inspect your chimney and remove any buildup.
- Confirm that the flue is operating correctly.

3. Don't Forget Your Dryer Vents

- Schedule a dryer vent cleaning before the season begins. .
- If you're planning to wait until spring for a full cleaning, inspect the outdoor vent termination to ensure it's clear of lint and functioning properly.

4. Inspect Your Roof, Gutters, and Downspouts

- Clean out all gutters to avoid blockages that could cause ice dams.
- Ensure that downspouts are directing water at least 4-5 feet away from your house.

5. Winterize Outdoor Sources and Water Features

- Winterize your irrigation system, pool, and outdoor faucets.
- Remove hoses, drain them, and store them indoors until next season.

6. Seal Exterior Doors and Windows

- Inspect the seals around doors and windows on a windy day to identify areas where cold air is coming in.
- Seal gaps with caulk, paint, or weatherstripping to ensure a tight fit.