PREP BEFORE THE FIRST FREEZE

Winter Home Maintenance Checklist

Outside the house • roof, gutters, yard & garage

Roof & Gutters

- [ ] Clear leaves from gutters & downspouts
- [ ] Check roof for loose or missing shingles
- [ ] Trim branches hanging over the roof
- [ ] Inspect flashing around chimney & vents

Water & Pipes

- [ ] Disconnect & drain garden hoses
- [ ] Shut off & drain outdoor faucets
- [ ] Insulate exposed pipes in garage/crawl space
- [ ] Blow out irrigation / sprinkler lines

Doors & Windows

- [ ] Replace worn weatherstripping
- [ ] Re-caulk gaps around frames
- [ ] Swap screens for storm windows
- [ ] Check door sweeps for drafts

Yard & Garage

- [ ] Store patio furniture & cushions
- [ ] Service snow blower, stock fuel
- [ ] Buy ice melt & snow shovels
- [ ] Mark driveway edges with stakes

STAY WARM, SAFE & EFFICIENT

Inside the House

Heating, safety and energy checks

Heating

- [ ] Replace furnace / HVAC filter
- [ ] Book a furnace or boiler service
- [ ] Bleed radiators
- [ ] Test the thermostat & set a schedule
- [ ] Vacuum vents and returns

Safety

- [ ] Test smoke alarms, replace batteries
- [ ] Test carbon monoxide detectors
- [ ] Check fire extinguisher pressure
- [ ] Sweep & inspect the chimney
- [ ] Stock a power-outage kit

Energy Savers

- [ ] Reverse ceiling fans (clockwise)
- [ ] Add draft stoppers under doors
- [ ] Insulate the attic hatch
- [ ] Set water heater to 120°F / 49°C
- [ ] Close vents in unused rooms

Plumbing

- [ ] Know where the main water shut-off is
- [ ] Open cabinet doors on frigid nights
- [ ] Check the sump pump
- [ ] Insulate the water heater pipes
- [ ] Keep heat ≥ 55°F / 13°C when away

PLAN IT OUT

Winter Maintenance Schedule

When to do what — Oct to Mar

TASK	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR
Clean gutters	●	○	○	○	○	●
Furnace filter	●	○	●	○	●	○
Test smoke & CO alarms	●	○	○	●	○	○
Drain outdoor taps	●	●	○	○	○	○
Check roof & attic for ice dams	○	○	●	●	●	○
Clear snow from vents	○	○	●	●	●	●
Inspect weatherstripping	●	●	○	○	○	○
Check sump pump	○	●	○	○	●	●
Deep-clean humidifier	○	●	○	●	○	●
Check for drafts	○	●	●	○	○	○
Spring prep: gutters & roof	○	○	○	○	○	●

● = suggested month • tick or colour the dot when done

RECORDS & CONTACTS

Home Maintenance Log

Date	Task / repair	Cost	Done by

Emergency contacts

Service	Company	Phone
Plumber		
Electrician		
HVAC / heating		
Snow removal		
Utility / gas		