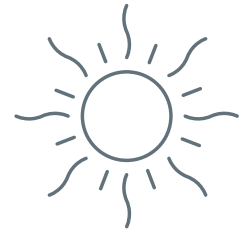


# Summer Home Maintenance Checklist



Keep your home safe and comfortable inside and out with a few simple to-dos. Visit [my.aarpfoundation.org](https://my.aarpfoundation.org) for more helpful information, including programs that can help when you need it most.

<b>Clean windows and screens with hot, soapy water and a brush</b> <i>Inspect window frames for rot and screens for tears</i>
<b>Reverse ceiling fan direction to counterclockwise</b> <i>Turn fan off, wait until it's still, and look for the direction switch above the blades</i>
<b>Clean your air conditioner filter</b> <i>While turned off, use warm water or a vacuum cleaner (if no self-cleaning option)</i>
<b>Inspect your basement</b> <i>Check for insects, pests, leaks, mold, and mildew</i>
<b>Check outdoor faucets and hoses for leaks</b> <i>Replace hose or cover small holes with duct tape</i>
<b>Give your patio or deck some TLC</b> <i>Repair cracks, hammer in loose nails, replace rotting boards, and re-seal to prevent wood rot</i>
<b>Landscape and trim back shrubs and trees</b> <i>Clear out yard waste and mow the lawn regularly to reduce storm damage risk</i>
<b>Check house exterior for peeling paint or mildew</b> <i>Inspect the foundation for any cracks</i>
<b>Prepare your summer supply kit</b> <i>Stock up on sunscreen, bug spray, and first-aid items</i>
<b>Inspect window and door locks</b> <i>Ensure that all points of access are secure</i>
<b>Install sun-blocking window treatments</b> <i>Blackout or thermal curtains help block sunlight and lower cooling costs</i>
<b>Test safety devices</b> <i>Check smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors</i>

## Helpful Tips

- ✓ **Do It Yourself.** Download this [free guide](#) to identify small DIY home maintenance tasks to avoid big repairs later on – reducing the chance of unexpected expenses.
- ✓ **Save Money.** There are programs that can help you save money on your property taxes. Check out [this helpful article](#) to learn more and see if you qualify.
- ✓ **Get Creative.** If you're living on a fixed or low income, you're probably feeling the pinch. [Get tips](#) for finding more room in your budget when prices are going up here.

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