

Summer Home Maintenance Checklist



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

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

Helpful Tips

- ✓ **Earn Extra Money.** Having a side hustle can help take the pressure off paying your bills. Check out this [step-by-step guide](#) to choosing the right gig for you.
- ✓ **Save on Care.** Finding extra cash for dental or vision care can be challenging. [This helpful article](#) shows you how to find reduced- or low-cost services in your state.
- ✓ **Find Support.** Sudden loss of income because of a layoff, loss of a spouse, or an injury? Discover tips and programs that can help [here](#).

Disclaimer: The instructions contained in this guide are general suggestions only. Please use caution and sound judgment when deciding whether to attempt the activities described herein, and consult your physician if you have questions. AARP and AARP Foundation are not liable for any physical harm incurred by individuals attempting the activities described herein. Please use caution when selecting a contractor or third party to assist you with home repairs. AARP and AARP Foundation are not liable for the acts of third-party contractors. The mention of a product or service herein is solely for information and education and may not be used for any commercial purpose. Copyright ©2026 by AARP Foundation. All rights reserved.