



# HOME MAINTENANCE



Every home is unique, but there are still tasks that need to be done regularly. This doesn't have to be a monumental task. Breaking it down into smaller steps keeps it manageable. Enlisting the help of others spreads out the labour and helps to instill a sense of ownership and pride in the home. Our handy checklist will help you stay on track!

## Seasonal Cleaning & Chores

- Clean out gutters along roof
- Inspect garden/lawn equipment, snowblower – repair/maintain as needed before storing for season
- Spring: Open outdoor faucets & get out hoses
- Autumn: Close outdoor faucets & store hoses
- Clean patio furniture, seasonal items, inspect lights
- Check sump pump
- Clean windows inside & out – best to do this on a cloudy day to prevent streaks!
- Autumn: protect tender plants/shrubs from windburn– wrap in burlap after Hallowe'en
- Launder pillows/comforters, vacuum mattress(es)
- Clean grout (fun!)
- Clean & condition wood furniture
- Clean stove hood & filters
- Clean fridge/freezer
- Clean oven
- Clean inside kitchen cabinets
- Clean drapes according to manufacturer instructions, clean/vacuum window shades

## Monthly Cleaning & Chores

- clean/disinfect wastepaper & laundry baskets, doorknobs, light switches, remotes, phones, other high-touch areas
- wipe down kitchen cabinets, clean microwave & stovetop
- vacuum upholstery/furniture

## Weekly Cleaning & Chores

- mop all floors & vacuum (or more often if you have pets)
- clean bathroom(s)
- garden weeding & edging (do one garden at a time if you have multiple – rotate them weekly)
- sweep patio/deck/porch/walkway as needed
- lawn mowing (or pay a neighbourhood teen to do it)
- stay on top of laundry – if you have a timer on your washer, put a load in a night to run early in the morning. You can flip it to the dryer when you get up.

Breaking your whole house down into sections or rooms makes staying on top of chores much easier. Set aside a half or whole day (depending on how much needs to be done) or spread it out over a few days. Do a deep clean in one section per month, including lights, trim/baseboards, cabinets, appliances, upholstery, furniture. Add in any rooms you might have that aren't on this list. If you can, get the whole family involved!

- |                                  |               |                      |
|----------------------------------|---------------|----------------------|
| • Front Hall/Mudroom/Powder Room | • Kitchen     | • Living/Family Room |
| • Main Bathroom                  | • Dining Room | • Other Bedrooms     |
| • Primary Bedroom/Bathroom       | • Other Rooms | • Laundry Room       |

Your home is likely one of the biggest & most important investments most of us will ever have, so it only makes sense to take care of it. With our easy-to-follow checklist, you can master home maintenance!

“THE SECRET OF GETTING AHEAD IS GETTING STARTED. THE SECRET OF GETTING STARTED IS BREAKING YOUR COMPLEX, OVERWHELMING TASKS INTO SMALL MANAGEABLE TASKS, AND THEN STARTING ON THE FIRST ONE.”

– MARK TWAIN



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