



Home Exterior Assessment Checklist

It's a great time to assess any damage caused by winter or recent extreme weather conditions.

Print out this handy checklist, walk around your property and make notes of any issues you find. Snap a few photos and bring your list into your local, independent hardware store—they can recommend the right tools and products for each job. Need help fixing any issues you find?

[Reach out to us](#), we would be happy to help.

Siding & Paint

Siding Condition

- ☐ Cracked, warped, loose or missing siding panels
- ☐ Holes, splits or punctures in vinyl, wood or fiber cement siding
- ☐ Gaps at panel joints, edges and around fasteners
- ☐ Deterioration or damage around corners, vents and utility penetrations

Paint & Coating

- ☐ Peeling, bubbling or flaking paint
- ☐ Cracking or blistering of painted surfaces
- ☐ Fading or chalking of exterior finishes (UV damage)

Moisture & Staining

- ☐ Signs of mold, mildew or algae growth
- ☐ Water stains or discoloration on siding or trim
- ☐ Evidence of water runoff or splashback damage near the base of walls

Sealing & Penetrations

Gaps around:

- ☐ Vents (kitchen, bathroom, dryer exhausts)
- ☐ Electrical and natural gas lines
- ☐ Exterior faucets and A/C condenser pipes
- ☐ Cable, internet and other utility entries
- ☐ Large mechanical vents or duct penetrations

Pest Intrusion

- ☐ Holes with dark staining (common with mice, birds and insects)
- ☐ Droppings, nesting material or chew marks near penetrations
- ☐ Signs of woodpecker damage or insect boring

Foundation & Exterior Walls

Foundation & Structural Integrity

- ☐ Horizontal, vertical or stair-step cracks in the foundation wall
- ☐ Cracks around basement windows and below-grade exterior doors
- ☐ Signs of foundation movement: bulging, bowing or leaning walls
- ☐ Evidence of settling or shifting (e.g., uneven surfaces, separated joints)
- ☐ Gaps between foundation and siding or between walls and windows/doors

Moisture & Drainage Issues

- ☐ Water damage, staining or efflorescence on foundation walls
- ☐ Soil erosion or pooling water near the base of the foundation
- ☐ Downspouts discharging too close to the foundation
- ☐ Inadequate grading (ground should slope away from foundation)

Window Wells & Below-Grade Openings

- ☐ Window well damage: rusting, cracking or bent covers
- ☐ Accumulation of leaves, debris or sediment in window wells
- ☐ Clogged or non-functioning window well drains
- ☐ Water intrusion signs near basement window areas

Screens & Storm Windows

- ☐ Tears, holes or sagging in screen mesh
- ☐ Deteriorated, bent or corroded screen or storm window frames
- ☐ Loose, missing or rusted mounting hardware or fasteners
- ☐ Screens or storm windows not seated securely
- ☐ Difficulty opening, closing or removing panels
- ☐ Evidence of condensation or moisture trapped between storm windows

Windows & Doors

Glass & Seals

- ☐ Cracked, broken or chipped window or door glass
- ☐ Fogging or condensation between windowpanes
- ☐ Damaged or missing caulking or weatherstripping around frames
- ☐ Gaps or voids in sealant at joints or edges

Functionality & Hardware

- ☐ Drafts or leaks around window or door perimeters
- ☐ Difficulty opening, closing or locking
- ☐ Loose, corroded or damaged hinges, handles or locking mechanisms
- ☐ Warped, rotted or swollen frames or sills
- ☐ Misalignment between moving parts (e.g., door not latching properly)

Structural & Moisture Issues

- ☐ Gaps between door/window frames and surrounding walls
- ☐ Signs of water intrusion or staining around frames or sills
- ☐ Evidence of mold, mildew or rot near openings
- ☐ Discoloration or bubbling of paint or finish due to moisture

Decks, Patios, Fences & Railings

- ☐ Rot at the base of posts where they meet the ground
- ☐ Loose or lifted boards, nails, screws, posts or railings
- ☐ General rot, wood decay or water damage
- ☐ Moss, algae, or mildew buildup on walking surfaces
- ☐ Cracked, shifting, or uneven patio stones or pavers

Roof & Gutters

- ☐ Water stains or leaks in the attic or upper ceilings (interior evidence)
- ☐ Missing, curling or damaged shingles
- ☐ Clogged, overflowing or sagging gutters
- ☐ Standing water in gutters after rain
- ☐ Detached or improperly sloped downspouts
- ☐ Water pooling near the foundation
- ☐ Cracked, spalling or deteriorating chimney bricks or masonry

Garage Doors & Outdoor Fixtures

- ☐ Rust, corrosion or improper sealing on doors or metal surfaces
- ☐ Loose or damaged hinges, tracks or weatherstripping
- ☐ Exterior lights, vents and electrical outlets not functioning properly
- ☐ Garage door not opening, closing or locking correctly
- ☐ Visible damage to trim, woodwork or surrounding masonry

Landscaping & Drainage

- ☐ Tree branches or debris on the roof
- ☐ Large overhanging branches posing a risk to your house or garage
- ☐ Standing water or poor drainage near foundation or in the yard
- ☐ Damaged or leaning fences, retaining walls or edging
- ☐ Cracked, heaved or degraded footpaths and walkways
- ☐ Soil erosion or improper grading near the home's perimeter

**Ben Franklin said,
"An ounce of prevention
is worth a pound of cure."**

**Your home is your biggest investment.
Protect it for the future by staying current
with home maintenance and repairs.**

No Time? No Skills? No Problem!
Schedule the help you need.

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