



## Home Winterizing Checklist

- Insulate the attic:** Add or replace insulation in the attic to prevent heat from escaping and cold air from entering your home.
- Seal air leaks:** Inspect windows, doors, and other openings for any gaps or cracks. Use weatherstripping, caulk, or sealant to seal them and prevent drafts.
- Service the heating system:** Schedule a professional inspection and maintenance for your heating system. Replace air filters and clean ducts to ensure efficient heating.
- Insulate pipes:** Wrap exposed pipes with insulation sleeves or heat tape to prevent freezing and potential bursting. Insulate pipes in unheated areas like basements and garages.
- Clean gutters:** Clear out leaves, debris, and any clogs from your gutters.
- Check the roof:** Inspect your roof for any missing or damaged shingles. Replace or repair them to prevent leaks and water infiltration.
- Chimney maintenance:** If you have a fireplace or wood-burning stove, have your chimney inspected and cleaned before using it during winter.
- Check exterior faucets:** Shut off exterior water faucets and drain any residual water to prevent freezing and pipe damage.
- Install storm windows or use window insulation film:** If you have older windows, consider installing storm windows or applying window insulation film to improve energy efficiency.
- Reverse ceiling fans:** Change the direction of your ceiling fans to clockwise to push warm air downward and improve circulation.
- Prepare emergency supplies:** Stock up on emergency supplies like flashlights, batteries, blankets, non-perishable food, and bottled water in case of power outages or severe weather.
- Trim trees and branches:** Remove any dead or overhanging tree limbs near your home to prevent them from falling and causing damage during winter storms.
- Test smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors:** Ensure that all your detectors are in good working condition and replace batteries if necessary.
- Store outdoor furniture:** Clean and store outdoor furniture, grills, and gardening tools in a dry place to protect them from winter weather.
- Summer toys and equipment:** mowers and string trimmers need to be cleaned and maintained so that they start up quickly in the spring. Boats, jet skis, dirt bikes, and 4-wheelers need to be cleaned and stored to avoid dead batteries.
- Winter toys and equipment:** pull out your shovels and snowblower. Make sure you have salt ready for any upcoming storms. Inspect your snowblower, snowmobile and ice auger to make sure everything is in working order before you need it.
- Set programmable thermostats:** Program your thermostats to lower the temperature when you're away from home and raise it when you return, optimizing energy usage and comfort.



Remember, the specific winterization needs for your home may vary based on its age, location, and unique characteristics.