

# 5 Week Spring Home Maintenance & Improvement Tasks

Transform your home **one day at a time!** With these bite-sized tasks, you can enhance your space, increase functionality, and prevent costly repairs. Each task includes an estimated **time, cost, and pro tip** to help you stay on track.

Ready? Let's go! 🚀🏠

## Week 1: Organization & Quick Fixes

- 1. Create a Home Maintenance Checklist** (1 hour, free)
  - Develop a seasonal home maintenance plan to prevent issues before they arise.
  - **Tip:** Use a calendar app or printable checklist to track tasks and set reminders.
- 2. Seal Drafts Around Windows & Doors** (1–2 hours, \$10–\$30)
  - Apply weatherstripping or caulk to block cold air, reduce energy costs, and improve comfort.
  - **Tip:** Hold a candle near the edges on a windy day—if the flame flickers, you have a draft.
- 3. Replace Furnace Filter** (15 minutes, \$10–\$40)
  - Keeps your HVAC running efficiently and improves air quality.
  - **Tip:** Set a reminder to change it every 2–3 months.
- 4. Deep Clean Your Kitchen** (2–3 hours, free)
  - Scrub countertops, wipe cabinets, and clean out expired fridge items.
  - **Tip:** Use baking soda and vinegar for stubborn stains.
- 5. Clean & Organize Your Garage** (3–4 hours, free)
  - Declutter, sweep, and organize tools and storage bins.
  - **Tip:** Use wall-mounted shelves and pegboards to free up floor space.
- 6. Organize the Junk Drawer** (30 minutes, free)
  - Toss out expired coupons, pens that don't work, and old batteries.
  - **Tip:** Use small dividers to keep it from becoming messy again.
- 7. Clean & Test Smoke Detectors** (15 minutes, \$5 for new batteries)
  - Ensure they're working by pressing the test button and replacing batteries if needed.
  - **Tip:** Change batteries when you change your clocks for daylight savings.
- 8. Fix Leaky Faucets** (1 hour, \$5–\$20 for washers)
  - Prevent water waste and annoying drips by replacing washers or gaskets.
  - **Tip:** If the leak persists, the faucet cartridge may need replacement.

**Bonus Task:** Touch up paint on scuffed walls and baseboards for a quick refresh.

## **Week 2: Small Upgrades & Aesthetic Fixes**

1. **Reorganize Your Closet** (1–2 hours, free)
  - Swap out seasonal clothing and donate what you don't wear.
  - **Tip:** Turn all hangers backward; after six months, donate anything still backward.
2. **Wash Windows Inside & Out** (2 hours, free)
  - Remove grime and let in more natural light.
  - **Tip:** Clean on a cloudy day to prevent streaks from fast drying.
3. **Declutter One Room** (1 hour, free)
  - Start small and remove things you no longer use.
  - **Tip:** Set a timer for 15 minutes per area to stay focused.
4. **Install a Smart Thermostat** (1 hour, \$100–\$250)
  - Save on energy bills and control temps remotely.
  - **Tip:** Check for rebates from your energy provider.
5. **Replace Old Light Bulbs with LEDs** (30 minutes, \$10–\$50)
  - Improve lighting and lower energy consumption.
  - **Tip:** Use daylight bulbs for task areas and warm white for cozy spaces.
6. **Install a New Kitchen or Bathroom Faucet** (1–2 hours, \$50–\$150)
  - Modernize your sink area with a sleek new look.
  - **Tip:** Shut off the water supply before starting.

**Bonus Task:** Wash or replace your shower curtain for a fresh bathroom feel.

## **Week 3: Deep Cleaning & Functional Upgrades**

1. **Clean Your Air Ducts** (2 hours, free or \$200 professional)
  - Improves air quality and helps your HVAC work better.
  - **Tip:** Use a vacuum with a long hose to clean vents.
2. **Reorganize the Pantry** (1–2 hours, free)
  - Toss expired items and group foods into categories.
  - **Tip:** Use clear bins for easy visibility.
3. **Install a Backsplash** (4–6 hours, \$50–\$200)
  - Gives your kitchen a stylish update.

**Bonus Task:** Deep clean your carpets to remove dirt and odors.

## **Week 4: Home Exterior & Safety**

1. **Check for Water Leaks** (1 hour, free)

- Inspect under sinks, around toilets, and in the basement for leaks. Catching them early prevents water damage and mold growth.
  - **Tip:** Look for water stains on ceilings and check your water meter before and after a two-hour no-use period to detect hidden leaks.
2. **Install a Coat Rack or Hooks** (30 minutes, \$10–\$30)
    - A simple way to add storage and keep jackets, bags, and hats organized in your entryway.
    - **Tip:** Mount hooks at kid-friendly heights so little ones can hang their coats too!
  3. **Clean Your Microwave** (15 minutes, free)
    - Food splatters and grease can build up, causing odors and bacteria.
    - **Tip:** Place a bowl of water with lemon slices inside and microwave for 5 minutes—the steam loosens grime for easy wiping.
  4. **Replace Old Showerhead with a Water-Saving Model** (30 minutes, \$20–\$50)
    - Reduces water consumption without sacrificing pressure, saving money on water bills.
    - **Tip:** Look for a model with an aerator for a stronger flow while using less water.
  5. **Re-grout Bathroom or Kitchen Tiles** (2 hours, \$20–\$50)
    - Fresh grout makes tiles look brand new and prevents moisture damage.
    - **Tip:** Use a grout pen for a quick refresh if the existing grout is still intact but discolored.
  6. **Clean the Range Hood** (1 hour, free)
    - Grease buildup reduces efficiency and increases fire risk.
    - **Tip:** Remove and soak the filter in warm, soapy water before scrubbing with a degreaser.
  7. **Install a New Bathroom Mirror** (1 hour, \$50–\$150)
    - Upgrading to a modern or framed mirror enhances the style of your bathroom.
    - **Tip:** Consider installing a backlit LED mirror for extra functionality and a sleek look.

**Bonus Task: Organize kids' toys**—Sort, donate, and use labeled bins for easy cleanup.

## **Week 5: Enhancing Your Living Space**

1. **Update Entryway Lighting** (1–2 hours, \$50–\$200)
  - A new light fixture can instantly improve your home's curb appeal and ambiance.
  - **Tip:** Choose motion-sensor lighting for added security and energy efficiency.

2. **Fix or Replace Siding** (3–6 hours, \$50–\$500)
    - Cracked or warped siding can lead to moisture damage—repair or replace sections to maintain your home's exterior.
    - **Tip:** Use color-matched caulk to seal small cracks and prevent water from getting behind the siding.
  3. **Paint the Front Door** (1–2 hours, \$30–\$70)
    - A fresh coat of paint boosts curb appeal and protects the door from weather damage.
    - **Tip:** Choose a bold color to make your entrance stand out—red, navy, or even yellow!
  4. **Install a New Doorbell** (1 hour, \$30–\$100)
    - Upgrade to a smart doorbell for added convenience and security.
    - **Tip:** If you're installing a wired model, turn off power at the breaker before starting.
  5. **Clean Your Washing Machine** (1 hour, free)
    - Soap scum and bacteria can build up inside, leading to musty odors.
    - **Tip:** Run an empty cycle with hot water and vinegar, then wipe down the drum and detergent drawer.
  6. **Patch Small Holes in the Wall** (1 hour, \$10 for spackle)
    - Covers up dings and nail holes, making walls look new again.
    - **Tip:** Use a credit card or putty knife to smooth out the spackle before painting.
  7. **Clean and Organize Your Attic or Basement** (2–4 hours, free)
    - Decluttering these storage areas creates more usable space and helps prevent pests.
    - **Tip:** Label storage bins and place frequently used items within easy reach.
- Bonus Task:** Clean ceiling fans and light fixtures to remove dust and improve air circulation.

## Final Weeks: Fun DIY Projects & Home Comfort

1. **Install a Ceiling Fan** (1–2 hours, \$100–\$300)
  - Enhances air circulation, making rooms feel cooler in summer and warmer in winter.
  - **Tip:** Make sure to install it with the correct blade rotation—counterclockwise in summer, clockwise in winter.
2. **Rearrange Furniture** (2 hours, free)
  - A simple way to refresh a space without spending money.
  - **Tip:** Try “floating” furniture away from walls for a more open feel.
3. **Pressure Wash the Exterior** (3–4 hours, \$50 rental or \$200 pro service)
  - Removes dirt, mold, and mildew from siding, driveways, and walkways.

- **Tip:** Use a lower pressure setting on painted surfaces to avoid damage.
- 4. **Sort & Organize Seasonal Decorations** (1–2 hours, free)
  - Prevent clutter and make it easier to find decorations for the next holiday.
  - **Tip:** Store fragile items in labeled, stackable bins.
- 5. **Clean Your Garden Tools** (1 hour, free)
  - Keeping tools sharp and rust-free extends their lifespan.
  - **Tip:** Store tools in a bucket of sand mixed with oil to prevent rusting.
- 6. **Declutter & Clean the Laundry Room** (1 hour, free)
  - Organizing detergents and supplies makes laundry easier and more efficient.
  - **Tip:** Install a wall-mounted drying rack to save space

### **Bonus DIY Tasks for Extra Fun:**

- **Build an Indoor Herb Garden** (1–2 hours, \$20–\$50)
  - Enjoy fresh herbs year-round by growing basil, thyme, or mint indoors.
  - **Tip:** Use mason jars or repurpose tin cans for an eco-friendly touch.
- **Create a Photo Wall** (1–2 hours, free or \$20–\$100 for prints)
  - Turn blank walls into a gallery of favorite memories.
  - **Tip:** Use adhesive strips for easy, damage-free hanging.
- **Paint a Feature Wall** (2–4 hours, \$50–\$150)
  - Adds character and depth to a room with minimal effort.
  - **Tip:** Use painter’s tape to create geometric patterns or stripes.
- **Assemble a Hot Chocolate Bar** (30 minutes, \$10–\$30)
  - Create a cozy station with mugs, cocoa, and toppings like marshmallows.
  - **Tip:** Use a tiered tray to keep things organized and stylish.
- **Create a Chalkboard Wall** (1–2 hours, \$20–\$50)
  - Perfect for notes, doodles, or meal planning.
  - **Tip:** Choose a small section in the kitchen or entryway for a functional yet fun touch.
- **Build a Cozy Reading Nook** (2–3 hours, free or \$50–\$200)
  - Set up a comfy space with cushions, blankets, and warm lighting.
  - **Tip:** Use a corner with natural light and add floating shelves for books.
- **Create a Custom Wall Clock** (1–2 hours, \$20–\$50)
  - Make a stylish, one-of-a-kind clock using a DIY kit.
  - **Tip:** Personalize it with family photos, maps, or a rustic wood design.

### **Final Thoughts**

Small improvements **add up** to a big transformation! Whether you're deep-cleaning, organizing, or tackling a DIY project, these tasks will make your home **more functional, beautiful, and enjoyable.**