# Winter Home Preparation Checklist

The Home Watch Guy, LLC

Peace of Mind While You Are Away  
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Use this checklist to make sure your seasonal home is ready before you leave for the winter. Proper preparation helps prevent damage, saves money, and ensures a smooth return in the spring.

* ☐ Turn off the main water supply (and drain pipes if appropriate)
* ☐ Unplug appliances and electronics
* ☐ Adjust thermostat to winter settings (55°F recommended)
* ☐ Empty refrigerator and freezer; leave doors ajar
* ☐ Secure all windows and doors, including basement and attic access
* ☐ Set light timers for exterior and interior lights
* ☐ Forward your mail or pause delivery services
* ☐ Remove perishable food and empty trash cans
* ☐ Provide keys and alarm access to your home watch provider
* ☐ Update emergency contact information
* ☐ Test smoke and carbon monoxide detectors
* ☐ Shut off gas if recommended by your utility provider
* ☐ Store outdoor furniture, hoses, and grills safely
* ☐ Clean gutters and check roof for visible damage
* ☐ Leave cabinet doors open to allow air circulation near pipes
* ☐ Review your homeowner’s insurance policy for winter vacancy clauses
* ☐ Double check your pest protection boxes

  
Checklist prepared by The Home Watch Guy, LLC — September 03, 2025