

First-Time Homeowner Monthly Checklist



A SIMPLE MONTH-BY-MONTH GUIDE TO STAYING AHEAD OF REPAIRS

Owning your first home comes with a lot of “Is this normal?” moments. This monthly checklist helps you keep an eye on common issues before they turn into bigger repairs.

MONTHLY HOMEOWNER CHECK-IN

- Walk through your home and note anything new or unusual
- Check doors and windows for sticking or drafts
- Look for cracks in drywall or separation at seams
- Test light switches and outlets for looseness
- Check under sinks for drips or moisture
- Look for loose cabinet hardware or hinges
- Inspect stair railings and banisters for movement

Usually Normal

- ✓ Doors sticking
- ✓ Small drywall cracks
- ✓ Nail pops
- ✓ Minor trim gaps

Needs Attention

- ✗ Electrical issues that repeat
- ✗ Cracks that grow or spread
- ✗ Water stains or soft drywall
- ✗ Electrical issues that repeat

YOUR FIRST-YEAR HOMEOWNER RULE

Small fixes done consistently are easier than large repairs done all at once. Keeping a short running list and addressing items early helps protect your home and your budget.



If something looks unsafe, keeps coming back, or feels outside your comfort zone, a professional handyman can help.

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