

# Honey Do Repair and Chimney Company

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[www.Honeydorepair.com](http://www.Honeydorepair.com)

## Fall Chores

No matter where you live, seasonal changes in temperature and moisture levels require special maintenance tasks. Fall cleaning are necessary to maintain a house's appearance and keep it in good condition.

- **Close and drain hose bibs.**
- **Rake debris away from side of house and other structures**
- **Clean out gutters and downspout elbows**
- **Check gutters, downspouts, and roof penetrations for leaks**
- **Treat wood gutters.**
- **Check and repair caulk (if needed) around exterior surfaces**
- **Note any cracks in foundation, brick or stucco**
- **Hose off house exterior**
- **Scrub mildewed areas of house exterior and treat for mildew and fungus on decks (spring)**
- **Clean gaps between deck boards above joists**
- **Clean around air conditioner compressor**
- **Trim any trees or shrubs that touch house**
- **Inspect and replace (if needed) weather-stripping**
- **Inspect and repair (if needed) screens**
- **Inspect and clean (if needed) storm window weep holes**
- **Clean out under decks and porches**



- **Inspect and repair (if needed) glazing compound**
  - **Clean out basement window wells**
  - **Examine septic system drain field for flooding, odor; have tank pumped yearly**
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## Monthly Interior Jobs

These are some monthly jobs that should be done to keep appliances and mechanicals working properly. Doing so will likely extend the life and performance of each item.

- **Inspect and clean faucet aerators and shower heads**
- **Clean frost-free refrigerator drain pan**
- **Inspect dishwasher for leaks**
- **Clean kitchen exhaust fan filters**
- **Grind ice cubes in disposer**
- **Check and replace (if needed) heating system air filter**
- **Drain 1-2 gallons of water from water heater**
- **Maintain drains with baking soda or hot water, not with chemical drain openers**
- **Pour water down unused drains**
- **Inspect visible foundation areas, pipes, vents and ducts**



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## Annual Interior Chores

At least once a year, these items need to be checked. It's important to properly check the fireplace and combustion appliances by fall, because the house is "sealed up" in the winter and not much fresh air enters in.

- **Clean and seal tile grout**
- **Inspect plumbing shutoff valves**
- **Inspect toilets for stability**
- **"Exercise" circuit breakers**
- **Vacuum smoke alarms**
- **Vacuum heating registers, vents, ducts, radiators**



- **Inspect fireplace flues for "glassy" creosote buildup and have flues cleaned regularly**
- **Inspect fireplace firebrick and mortar for cracks and deterioration, patch small cracks, but large ones require professional repair**

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## Heating/Cooling & Hot Water Systems

Most heating system maintenance should be done twice a year, once before the heating season and once before the cooling season.

- **General furnace inspection: look for rust, scaling on heat exchanger, proper flame color, note odd sounds or smells and check condition of venting**
- **Test for proper drafting at furnace and/or water heater diverter, examine flue for leaks, rust, damage**
- **Examine pressure-temperature relief valve for leaking, and test, if desired**
- **Arrange for appropriate regular servicing and cleaning of combustion appliances**
- **Drain hot water system expansion tank**
- **Check hot water system water level (pressure)**
- **Bleed hot water system radiators**



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## For More How-To Information

Many of the steps described in this "Preventive Home Maintenance" page are explained more fully with our step-by-step, instructional videotape on Preventive Home Maintenance. You can read a short description of the tape and find out how to order it by linking to its section in the [Hometime Store](#).



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