

## Home Maintenance Takes Time But Helps You Avoid Future Problems

Being a homeowner is a very rewarding experience but it takes work. Keeping up to date with regular maintenance is important in order to avoid major repairs in the future. Instead of waiting for a large, expensive problem to come along, set up an annual maintenance schedule to prevent major incidents from happening. The first thing you should do is make sure there are no current problems with the home. Have a professional come in and do a full inspection of your house. You can fix small problems yourself like burned out light bulbs and chipping paint, but you should have a professional handle other projects. To find pest problems, call in an exterminator that can cope with with a Northern Kentucky termite problem or a Cincinnati termite problem. An exterminator will find other problems as well, like ants, roaches, or rodents. Once you know the home is clear of pests, you can move onto other issues.

During both the winter and summer you will want to make sure your home is insulated properly. During the cooler, windy months you can check for drafts with a smoking incense stick. You can light the stick and after it is smoking, watch the movement of the smoke when you put it near windows, doors, and where there may be cracks. Once you recognize the drafty areas, take measures to plug up the drafts with the appropriate kind of insulation. You may not think the problems are significant, but once the drafts are stopped, you will notice just how different it is.

While pest protection and insulation are important, it is important to make sure your home is safe and not a fire risk. First, do a smoke detector check. Change the batteries if necessary and run a test on all of them to make sure they are doing what you installed them to do. Next, add fire extinguishers if you do not already have them. There should be one in the kitchen, one near the outdoor grill, and one near the fireplace if your home has one. Also help everyone become familiar with how the extinguishers work.

Finally, do an inspection of your home and make sure all of your appliances are in good working order and not a fire risk. Faulty appliances could be putting your home at risk without your even knowing it. Frayed wires or clogged filters are fire hazards, especially if flammable items are nearby. For instance, if your dryer is in the basement with old paint cans, you are putting your entire house at risk.

Most people know to separate items that may create a danger, but even the most responsible homeowners sometimes overlook things. If you want a safe, comfortable home, take a look around your home and be proactive in making changes and repairs.

### About the Author

Connor R. Sullivan read recently of a [Northern Kentucky termite](#) problem which is causing damage to area homes. He also heard about a [Cincinnati termite](#) problem in certain neighborhoods. Visit the Uber [Article Directory](#) to get a totally unique version of this article for reprint.

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