



# Home Safety Seasonal Checklist

Whether springing forward or falling back, Daylight Saving Time is the perfect opportunity for a seasonal home safety check. Here's a helpful checklist:

## Check & Replace

- Smoke + Carbon Monoxide (CO) Detectors**  
Change batteries twice a year. Replace smoke detectors every 10 years, CO detectors every five years.
- Light Bulbs (Inside + Outside)**  
Consider updating to energy saving light bulbs (estimated savings of \$30+ over each bulb's lifetime).
- HVAC Filter**  
Most people change their filters each season, when they know the equipment is going to be working hardest.
- Dryer Filter + Hoses**  
Dryer fires can occur as a result of blocked dryer exhaust ducts. Clean dryer hoses each year, inspect the vent and hose for blockages every six months.
- Fire Extinguisher**  
Check the pressure gauge, and verify the locking pin is intact.

## Reset & Update

- Home Alarm Systems**  
Make sure the correct Daylight Savings Time dates are programmed into your system's control panel. Some systems will automatically adjust, but others need to be manually programmed. Check with your home security company to determine the needs of your system.
- DVRs**  
Don't miss your favorite shows! Make sure your DVR is set correctly and that changes will occur on the proper day and time.
- Ceiling Fans**  
Reverse the direction of any ceiling fans: clockwise in winter, so air blows up, and counter-clockwise in summer, so air blows down.
- Computer Passwords**  
It's best to change your password at least every 90 days to protect against viruses and hackers. Use a password that is hard to guess.

## Prepare & Review

- Home Insurance Policy**  
Insurance needs can change yearly as you expand or remodel your home, or with general wear and tear. Reevaluate your policy to ensure it reflects your current status.
- Car Emergency Kit**  
Include blankets, jumper cables, flashlight, batteries, first-aid kit, tire inflator, and a backup power supply for your cell phone.
- Disaster Preparedness Kit**  
Include water, food, flashlights, batteries, blankets, first-aid kit, and a portable radio. Once you've created the kit, use the semi-annual time change to check and restock contents.
- Family Emergency Plan**  
Review/update your plan or create one for the first time. Hold a meeting with family members to explain what to do and where to go in case of an emergency. And post an emergency info page near the phones.



## And Travel Carefully...

The National Safety Council says pedestrians are three times more likely to be struck and killed by cars in the days following the end of Daylight Savings Time. Pay extra attention to your surroundings while walking, shopping, and driving, as darkness increases around the time of afternoon rush hour.



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