

Winterize your home from the inside out



Direct Energy has prepared a home maintenance checklist to ensure that you have the tips you need to increase energy efficiency, protect the lifespan of your home's components and make your property safe before the brutal cold season begins.

Indoors

We spend a lot more time indoors during the winter season, especially when the chill becomes unbearable. Make your home more comfortable and safe with the following winter-prep tips:



- Inspect doors and windows for cracks/drafts; use caulking and weather stripping to seal any gaps
- Clean or replace furnace filters
- Get a furnace tuneup by a qualified HVAC technician



- Inspect for and clean out debris and residue from fireplace/chimney
- Test smoke alarms. Batteries should be replaced bi-annually (ideally when the clocks change)
- Test carbon monoxide detectors - replace batteries annually



- Switch the ceiling fan rotation clockwise to blow warm air down
- Clean home humidifiers



- Check the attic, basement and crawl spaces for proper air ventilation and insulation
- Replace an older thermostat with a programmable unit to save money on heating costs
- Assemble an emergency preparedness kit for your home and vehicle

Learn more at [directenergy.ca](https://www.directenergy.ca)

Did you know?

Missing or damaged shingles can cause water leakage. The section of your roof that gets the most exposure to the sun requires your closest attention. Make a thorough inspection and call a professional if repairs are needed.

Most homes in Canada are heated by furnaces or other appliances that run on natural gas or oil, increasing the risk of carbon monoxide poisoning in the winter. To ensure safety, install certified carbon monoxide alarms (accredited by the Standards Council of Canada) in hallways and near sleeping areas.