

Ownership of a home is a major responsibility. It's possible to keep on top of home maintenance without needing the expense of hiring contractors. It is crucial to understand what tasks are important and which tasks aren't. Many household maintenance tasks are easy to finish and don't require much cost or time. Here are 10 things you should start by doing.

1. **Replace your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors** Carbon monoxide and smoke detectors are essential to keep your family and home safe from carbon monoxide and fire. Be sure that they're operating properly by replacing the batteries and locating them in the areas where they are supposed to be. Carbon monoxide, a colorless and odorless gas is a cause of dizziness, headaches or weakness. It can also cause death. It is created by burning gasoline in cars and trucks, kerosene heaters and natural gas and propane stoves and fireplaces.
2. **Change the HVAC Filter in your home** A dirty filter is the main reason for system failure. Keep up with this easy maintenance task in order to lower your energy costs. If you discover the filter, take it off and replace it carefully with an alternative. Make note of the direction of air flow arrows on the frame of the filter so you can install it correctly. It is then time to restore power back to the HVAC unit. Take a look at the warranty on your home to see what you can replace under the terms of your warranty. Many people don't know that Cinch home services offer services that can cover components in your home that might require updating.
3. **Check Your Gutters** Gutters are an essential part of the home's foundation. They are able to divert water away, which decreases the risk for soil erosion or mildew as well as structural damage. Make sure your gutters are clog-free and in good condition. Verify for standing or slow-moving water, insufficient slope or downspout direction; missing hangers or spikes, peeling or rusting paint and staining of the surfaces. Make a segment of work during a time that isn't raining.
4. **Change the Light Bulbs in Your Home** It is easy to forget about changing the bulbs of your light when it's an essential task. Always make sure you shut off the lights off prior to changing the light bulb. To use a screw fitting simply put the new bulb in the socket and then twist. Make sure you dispose of the bulb in a responsible manner.
5. **Clean Your Windows** If you're experiencing streaks of white on your windows, which can be difficult to remove, just a few simple steps can have them looking like a professional cleaning them. Make sure you dust the frames and sills of your windows. Then, clean the glass with the help of a squeegee as well as lint-free. Lynsey recommends using Casabella Microfiber Cloths. They have a honeycomb-textured surface that eliminates water spots dirt, smudges and grime without scratching.
6. **Clean Your Garage** Keep a regular garage cleaning schedule to prevent messes and maintain the cleanliness of your garage for a longer period of time. Wipe floors often, mop floors, wipe down walls with a mixture of detergent and water in order to break down oil spills, and air out your garage each month. Make sure you get behind the workbench and other objects that aren't possible to shift to the side (wear a mask). Clean the crevices between the floor and walls.
7. **Cleaning Your Gutters** Gutters are made to channel rainwater coming off of the roof to the ground, preventing it from leaking into your home, which could cause foundation issues. However, they can become blocked by debris and leaves. Cleaning your gutters isn't an easiest task, but not doing it can lead to bigger (and more expensive) house repairs later on. Make sure you use a sturdy ladder, wear appropriate work gloves and never over-extend your reach.
8. **Cleaning Your Gutters** Gutters play a significant role of the drainage system within your home. But they can become clogged with twigs and leaves and debris. This can cause water to run back over your walls and cause damage to your house. Cleaning your gutters is a messy job, but it's [latest plumbing article](#) essential for protecting your home. Wear work gloves and use an appropriate ladder. An outdoor trowel is essential, as is an item to scoop up the mess.
9. **Cleaning Your Gutters and Soffits** Gutters should be cleaned regularly and soffits should be inspected. They safeguard the fascia roof, and if they are not ventilated properly water can cause mold and wood rot. Professionals can safely remove stains and dirt with the necessity of climbing the ladder. They first apply a soap solution using a low-pressure nozzle to avoid damaging the foliage around.
10. **Cleaning Your Gutters** The blocked gutters stop rainwater from flowing down and cause mold on the roof, and water damage to the house. They also attract insects and other animals. It's tedious and messy to clean your gutters, but this is a must-do task. Make sure you wear safety gear and a sturdy ladder. Consider getting a gutter cleaning tool attached to a hose instead climbing up a ladder.

