

Prepping for the Holidays Checklist



General

- Carpets:** if carpets have obvious stains, have them cleaned before guests arrive. If carpets are in good shape, wait until after the holidays so you can start the year with clean carpets.
- Nightlights:** place nightlights in the rooms that guests will be using.
- Sidewalk Salt:** have salt on hand for your driveway and sidewalks in case there is unexpected inclement weather.

Hospitality

- Sleep Areas:** vacuum sofa beds and sofas, make sure all surfaces are cleaned inside and out. Put clean sheets and blankets on beds.
- Towels & Toilet Paper:** make sure that items like bath towels and toilet paper are available and easy to find.
- Personal Care Kits:** create care kits containing little soaps and toothpastes, pain reliever, and allergy pills if you have pets.

Kitchen

- Food:** clean out your fridge and pantry, then stock up on some basic foods in addition to your holiday meal shopping. Show your house guests what foods are available if they get hungry. If you have a guest with food allergies, make sure to buy foods that are appropriate for them.
- Food Storage:** buy some basic plastic containers or Ziploc bags so you can easily give out leftovers after parties and meals. These will also help for storing extra holiday food if you have a shortage of containers.
- Labeling:** make sure you have a Sharpie (or multiple Sharpies) handy for labeling and dating leftovers.

Childproof

- Electrical Outlets:** make sure you have covers for all of your electrical outlets.
- No Tinsel:** do not decorate with tinsel as it is a choking hazard both for children and for pets.
- Baby Gate:** get your old baby gate out of the closet if there is an area that you would like to partition off from little people (or pets).