

Fall Declutter Checklist

KickOutClutter.com — Print and check off as you go.

Clear out the old before the holiday rush. Fall is the best time to rotate seasonal gear, donate coats, and streamline pantries before winter.

Supplies

- Donation bags/boxes, labels, markers
- Storage bins with lids, vacuum bags for bulky clothing
- Shelf liners, moth deterrents, cedar blocks
- Trash bags, recycling bin, shredding bag
- Sticky notes for 'holiday hold' or 'review later' piles

Quick Rules

- Use 'one in, one out' for coats, shoes, and pantry snacks.
- Ask: Will I use this before spring? If not, release it.
- Stage donation drop-off before the first frost.
- Rotate pantry staples; donate unopened extras to food drives.
- Keep a 'holiday hold' box for decor and gifts you'll set soon.

1) Coat Closet & Outerwear (20–30 min)

- Pull all coats, jackets, hats, gloves; keep best/favorite, donate extras.
- Check zippers, buttons, and fit for each item before storing or donating.

2) Shoes & Boots (15–20 min)

- Line up all pairs; toss worn beyond repair; donate those in good condition.
- Weatherproof leather boots; box summer sandals for storage.

3) Pantry & Freezer Rotation (30–40 min)

- Check dates on canned goods, soups, and baking staples.
- Rotate frozen items forward; plan meals around older food.
- Donate unopened, unexpired items to local food drive.

4) Sports & Outdoor Gear (20–30 min)

- Edit summer gear (balls, nets, bikes) to storage or donation.

- Stage fall/winter gear: rakes, snow shovels, sleds, salt, boots.

5) Kids' Clothes & Toys (30–40 min)

- Sort sizes; pass down or donate outgrown clothes.
- Cull broken or ignored toys; rotate bins before holidays.

6) Decor & Holiday Preview (20–30 min)

- Review fall decor; release items not used last year.
- Open holiday bin; set aside early prep items (lights, wrap, candles).

7) Garage & Tools (30–40 min)

- Store summer tools; prep snow gear, salt, blower, rake.
- Dispose of old chemicals responsibly; check gas/oil for mower/snowblower.

8) Paper & Admin (20–30 min)

- Shred outdated papers; file current insurance, school, tax docs.
- Make a folder for holiday receipts and returns.

9) Bedrooms & Linens (20–30 min)

- Swap lighter bedding for warmer duvets/blankets.
- Cull excess blankets and pillows; donate clean extras.

10) Safety & Seasonal Checks (15–20 min)

- Change smoke/CO batteries; test alarms.
- Check furnace filter; schedule service before peak cold.
- Verify snow/ice supplies are ready: salt, scraper, mats.