

Holiday Prep Checklist

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Prep your home and routines for guests, gatherings, and gifting. Simplify spaces, refresh linens, and stage a smooth entertaining flow.

Supplies

- Bins/baskets for staging donations and decor
- Cleaning kit: glass spray, all-purpose spray, microfiber cloths
- Guest linens: sheets, blankets, towels, toiletries
- Food storage: foil, containers, labels, cooler space
- Gift wrap kit: paper, bags, tape, scissors, tags

Quick Rules

- Declutter before decorating; fewer surfaces = easier cleaning.
- Donate or toss decor you won't use this year.
- Set one staging bin for 'outgoing gifts' and one for 'returns'.
- Batch errands: groceries, gifting, donations in one loop.
- Plan freezer meals and quick breakfasts for hosting days.

1) Guest Room & Linens (30–45 min)

- Wash and refresh bedding; add extra blankets.
- Clear surfaces and make a small 'guest basket' (toiletries, Wi-Fi code).

2) Bathrooms Ready (20–30 min)

- Stock TP, soap, clean towels; add a seasonal candle.
- Clear vanity clutter; stash extras in labeled bins.

3) Kitchen & Pantry (30–45 min)

- Wipe fridge; rotate pantry; add baking staples forward.
- Set beverage/coffee station with mugs, tea, cocoa.

4) Dining & Serving (20–30 min)

- Check table linens, dishes, glassware, and serving trays.
- Stage a shelf/bin for hosting items so they're grab-ready.

5) Living & Decor (30–40 min)

- Declutter surfaces before decorating; limit decor to favorites.
- Test lights; replace batteries in remotes and candles.

6) Entry & Flow (15–25 min)

- Set coat hooks or rack; add boot tray or mat.
- Designate a bin for incoming packages/wrap supplies.

7) Gift Wrap & Supplies (20–30 min)

- Cull old wrap; keep a neat box with paper, bags, tags.
- Stage outgoing gifts in one basket for easy grab-and-go.

8) Food & Freezer Prep (30–45 min)

- Batch cook/freezer meals for hosting days.
- Prep quick breakfast foods: muffins, fruit, yogurt cups.

9) Calendar & Errands (15–20 min)

- Block shopping and donation runs on calendar.
- List grocery staples; build menu plan by day.

10) Safety & Comfort (15–20 min)

- Test smoke/CO alarms; check candles vs flameless.
- Adjust thermostat for comfort; stock extra blankets.