

Your First House Checklist



- Set up your utilities.**
 - Electric and gas
 - Trash and recycling
 - Water and sewer
 - Internet service
 - Phone service (if you want a landline)
- Refinish your floors before you move in.**
- Protect your (new) floors.**
- Replace your furnace filters.** Need help? Read our post on how to choose the right furnace filter.
- Start a file (either digital or paper) to collect important home maintenance contact information** such as the annual Diamond Certified Directory.
- Locate your main water shut-off valve.** Every capable member of your family should know when and how to turn it off.
- Get to know your circuit breaker.** It helps to label each circuit with its corresponding room.
- Meet your neighbors.** For better or worse, this is your new community, so make it "for better" by being the first to reach out.
- Review your insurance policy.** Now is the time to make sure you have the coverage you need.
- Install window coverings.** Window coverings can be a great place to start building the design of a room.
- Install doorstops.** Take the time to install them *now* before the wall has been damaged.
- Stock a toolbox.** Here are some tools you should have:
 - Hammer and nails
 - Drill and drill bits
 - Screwdrivers
 - Measuring tape
 - Wrench
 - Pliers
 - The phone number of a good home repair contractor.
- Install fire extinguishers.** To learn how to choose the right kind of fire extinguisher for your home, check out our Fire Safety page.
- Change the locks and make extra keys.**
- Make a family emergency plan.** Plan how you'll get out of the house quickly if you have to, how you'll evacuate the neighborhood if necessary and where you'll meet up if you get separated.
- Re-stock your disaster kit.**
- Enjoy your new house.** Phew! You're home! 😊

