



A CALM START TO FALL



PRE-FALL DECOR DECLUTTER

A room-by-room checklist for a clean, calm foundation

Before you open the fall bins...

Clear what no longer belongs, clean what has been hidden, and leave room for the fall details you truly love.

KEEP

Love it or use it

RELOCATE

Give it a home

DONATE

Clean and usable

REPAIR

Set a deadline

DISCARD

Damaged or unsafe

KEEP FALL DECOR BINS CLOSED UNTIL THE RESET IS COMPLETE

Entryway

- ☐ Remove summer hats, beach bags, old coupons, unopened mail, empty bags, and extra shoes.
- ☐ Clear the table and return keys and daily essentials to a defined place.
- ☐ Clean the mirror, door, rug, floor, and nearby baseboards.
- ☐ Leave room for one future fall focal point.

Living Room

- ☐ Remove fading summer florals and lightweight seasonal textiles.
- ☐ Clear unused magazines and small objects crowding tables or shelves.
- ☐ Launder or repair blankets and pillow covers.
- ☐ Dust lamps, frames, books, electronics, and hard-to-reach areas.
- ☐ Keep comfortable space for drinks, conversation, and daily living.

Fireplace Mantel

- ☐ Take everything down before deciding what returns.
- ☐ Clean the mantel, wall, mirror, and fireplace surround.
- ☐ Choose one leading element: artwork, mirror, wreath, garland, or collection.
- ☐ Replace everyday decor with seasonal pieces instead of layering in front of it.

Kitchen

- ☐ Remove summer towels, worn potholders, old papers, and expired food displays.
- ☐ Put away unused countertop appliances and decor that blocks food prep.
- ☐ Clean counters and underneath the appliances that remain.
- ☐ Add a fall tray, apples, printable, or towel only if working space remains.

Dining Room

- ☐ Remove mail, unfinished projects, serving pieces, and everyday clutter.
- ☐ Launder the runner or placemats.
- ☐ Wipe the table, chairs, legs, and lighting fixture.
- ☐ Choose a centerpiece that is simple and easy to move.

Guest Bathroom

- ☐ Discard empty toiletries and remove personal products from the counter.
- ☐ Launder hand towels and restock soap and toilet paper.
- ☐ Clear shelves of too many small decorations.
- ☐ Plan one simple seasonal touch, not several competing accents.

Front Porch

- ☐ Remove faded wreaths, dead plants, cracked pots, worn flags, and weather-damaged decor.
- ☐ Sweep the porch, clean the door, shake the mat, and wipe furniture.
- ☐ Address unhealthy plants and broken containers before decorating.

PRE-FALL DECOR DECLUTTER

Sort, clean, store, and reset without getting stuck

REMOVE & SORT

- ☐ Remove fading or tired summer florals.
- ☐ Put away summer signs, artwork, patriotic decor, and activity-specific pieces.
- ☐ Remove worn or unwanted pillows, throws, towels, and outdoor cushions.
- ☐ Clear mail, empty candleholders, cluttered trays, unused books, and catchall baskets.
- ☐ Notice tired everyday accessories and duplicate pieces.
- ☐ Relocate every misplaced item to a specific room or home.
- ☐ Place clean, usable unwanted items in the donation box.
- ☐ Give repairs a real deadline; discard damaged or unsafe items responsibly.

CLEAN BEFORE YOU RESTYLE

- ☐ Dust and wipe tops, edges, legs, hardware, walls, and baseboards.
- ☐ Vacuum floors, baskets, upholstery, and underneath furniture.
- ☐ Clean mirrors, frames, lamp bases, shades, books, and electronics.
- ☐ Wash glass vases, candleholders, trays, and washable decor.
- ☐ Launder pillow covers, throws, towels, runners, and placemats.
- ☐ Wipe faux greenery and remove old candle wax.
- ☐ Replace batteries in safe flameless candles; remove batteries before storage when appropriate.
- ☐ Return only necessary everyday items and leave open space for one fall focal point.

PAUSE BEFORE DECORATING

Photograph the clean room. Live with the quieter space for an evening and notice what already feels complete.

MAKE DECISIONS WITHOUT GETTING STUCK

• Would I buy this again today?

• Did I display or use it last year?

• Do I own something similar that I prefer?

• Would I choose to place it here today?

• Am I honestly going to repair it? By when?

• Does it support the way this room needs to function?

60-MINUTE QUICK RESET

0-10 MIN Gather sorting boxes, cloths, trash bag, and laundry basket.

10-25 MIN Clear the entryway, living room, and main surfaces.

25-40 MIN Clear the kitchen and dining work surfaces.

40-50 MIN Dust, wipe, vacuum, and clean glass.

50-60 MIN Relocate items, load donations, group repairs, and discard responsibly.

STORE SUMMER SMARTER

- ☐ Clean every item before storing and protect delicate pieces.
- ☐ Remove batteries when appropriate and label containers clearly.
- ☐ Group by early summer, patriotic, coastal, outdoor entertaining, textiles, and greenery.
- ☐ Place a simple inventory sheet inside the lid.
- ☐ If the container is full, revisit donate and discard before starting another bin.
- ☐ Use the one-in, one-out rule before buying another fall item.

THE FINAL CHECK

Does each fall piece add a color, scale, texture, function, or feeling the room truly needs? If not, leave it in the bin.