

HOUSE MAINTENANCE TIPS IN MALAYSIA: HOW TO PREVENT LEAKING, CRACKS, AND COSTLY REPAIRS

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INTRODUCTION

Owning a house is a great achievement, but keeping it in good condition requires consistent maintenance. Regular home care helps prevent costly repairs and extends your property's lifespan. Many common issues such as roof leaking, toilet leaking, wall cracks, or waterproofing problems can be avoided through simple preventive maintenance. While not every problem needs professional attention, timely assistance from a qualified building repair or waterproofing specialist can help prevent major structural damage and reduce long-term costs.

1. Regular Cleaning

The simplest form of home maintenance is regular cleaning. Not only does cleaning help prevent damage, but it also eliminates odors and reduces the risk of pest infestations. You should sweep, vacuum, and dust regularly to avoid buildup of dirt and dust. Next, you should regularly wipe down surfaces, particularly in kitchens and bathrooms, to remove scum and mold. Additionally, decluttering regularly can help create a more organized and functional space.

Though these tasks may seem easy, establishing a basic cleaning routine can significantly reduce the chances of bacteria and pest contamination. In kitchens and bathrooms, it's advisable to use natural and low-risk cleaners to avoid the use of harsh and harmful chemicals.

2. Plumbing Maintenance

A minor plumbing issue, if not resolved, could turn into a major problem if left unattended. Therefore, you should always check for water leaks under sinks and around your toilets. In addition, avoid disposing grease, hair, and any debris in drains regularly to prevent clogs. Look for any signs of rust or water leakage on your pipes.

Plumbing issues like water leaks can cause water damage, mold, or even other kinds of costly repairs. It is crucial to regularly check water pressure throughout your house, especially under your sinks. Watch for signs like unusual running water sounds or low water pressure. If problem persists, address the problem early or call a professional contractor if the problem is serious and requires technical know-how.

3. Electrical Safety Checking

Regular inspection is a must for electrical systems and appliances, as a damaged electrical systems and appliances can be dangerous if ignored, especially when it comes to electrical leakage or faulty wiring. One of the steps is to test outlets and circuit breakers to ensure that they're functioning properly. Besides that, you need to be aware of flickering lights or any unusual smells from outlets, in addition, you should unplug any appliances when they're not in use to reduce risks. Conducting regular electrical safety checks can help to prevent any dangerous scenario such as short circuits, which in turn, can lead to fire hazards. If you notice anything unusual, you should contact a licensed electrician immediately ^[2].

4. Structural & Waterproofing Care

If you want to avoid costly repairs for your house, make sure the structural element of your home are in a good condition. How to do it? It is very simple, one of which, is to regularly inspect the roof for any leaks or missing shingles, especially after heavy rain or storms. Besides that, you should check the walls and foundations for any cracks or signs of water damage. Other than that, you should maintain your doors and windows regularly to prevent drafts and water intrusion. A well-maintained structure can ensure safety, reduce the risk of leaks, and helps preserving your home's value.

5. Pest Control

Pests can cause health issues and damage your property, so prevention is key. To keep them away:

- Keep all food sealed and dispose of garbage properly.
- Regularly check for signs of termites, rodents, and other pests.
- Seal cracks or openings that could serve as entry point.

This action can be done by everyone in the house to avoid property damage or diseases. Always check for the kitchen or basement and any other hidden corners where pests often hide.

CONCLUSION

Maintaining your home doesn't have to be complicated, it's all about consistency and awareness. By performing regular cleaning, plumbing checks, waterproofing inspections, and minor repairs, you can prevent major problems like roof leaking, wall cracks, and toilet leaks before they become costly. Setting a simple maintenance schedule and engaging reliable repair specialists or waterproofing contractors when necessary will help preserve your home's safety, comfort, and long-term value. Remember, preventive maintenance is always more affordable than major building repair later on.

References:

- [1] Travelers (2020). *Home Maintenance Checklist: 10 Easy Things to Do Monthly*. Retrieved on 28th February 2022 from <https://www.travelers.com/resources/home/maintenance/home-maintenance-checklist-10-easy-things-to-do-monthly/>
- [2] Free Malaysia Today. (2021). *Maintaining your home: The ultimate checklist*. Retrieved on 28th February 2022 from <https://www.freemalaysiatoday.com/category/leisure/property/2021/08/12/maintaining-your-home-the-ultimate-checklist/>