

# SHED MAINTENANCE CHECKLIST



Print out this checklist and use it to help identify any potential problem areas in your shed, summerhouse, log cabin or playhouse.

If you find any issues, deal with them quickly - otherwise they'll get worse.

For new sheds, always make sure your installation is sound, and that you're happy with your garden building before undertaking any modifications.

## Outside

- Check that the base is level, intact and free from rot. Make sure any paving slabs are securely in place and not loose or wobbling.
- Check that there's nothing under your shed between the bearers preventing ventilation. If there is, clear it to prevent damp.
- Check the roof - is the covering secure, free from tears and wear, and properly fixed down?
- Clear any leaves and debris from the roof
- Check that all the windows are intact
- Check that the window and door frames are free from rot and weather damage
- Check that you can get all the way around your shed. Is it clear from plants, tree branches, etc? Are there any plants or branches that look like they're getting close?
- Check that all of the panels are secure and free from damage. Replace or re-affix any that are loose or broken
- Apply wood preservative or paint to keep the shed's timber intact, strong, and protected from the elements.
- Check that there are no obvious damp patches on the outside of the shed. If there are, find the source of the damp and make sure it's prevented in future. Consider fitting guttering to your shed to direct water to a butt or drain.
- Are there valuables in your shed? Are the locks strong and secure?

## Inside

- Check door and window frames open and close smoothly. Oil the hinges.
- Check all corners and joins. If you can see light through them, there's a gap. Fill this with expanding foam to keep out rain and wind.
- Check that the floor isn't too worn. If it shows signs of wear, replace or cover with board so you don't put your foot through a hole. Consider putting down some old carpet or lino to protect it.
- Check joins and corners for damp. If it's there, think about better protection from outside (wood treatment, better roof, guttering) and/ or heating and ventilation inside, as well as sealing those gaps with silicone or expanding foam.
- How does it look? Tidy up and paint the inside of your shed for a better organised, better looking and more comfortable space.

