Outdoor Living Space Inspection Checklist



Use this checklist to evaluate the condition and quality of outdoor features when touring a potential home. Or, if you have made an offer on a home and are having it inspected prior to purchase, accompany your inspector and use this checklist in your review of the outdoor living space as part of your pre-purchase inspection. Check each item as you go.

Learn all about outdoor living spaces at livingonthepatio.com where every day is Friday on the patio!

Patios and Decks	Notes
Surface is level and free of cracks or damage	
☐ No signs of wood rot, warping, or termite damage	
Railings are secure and up to code	
Deck boards or patio pavers are securely fastened	
Proper drainage (no pooling water after rain)	
Materials used are durable and weather-resistant	
Age and maintenance history provided by seller	
Landscape and Drainage	Notes
Yard is graded away from the house	
☐ No standing water or signs of erosion	
Trees and shrubs are trimmed and well-maintained	
No invasive roots near home foundation or patio	
Landscaping matches property boundaries and zoning	
Low-maintenance design (or manageable for you)	
Lighting & Electrical	Notes
☐ All outdoor lights function properly	
Light fixtures are weather-rated and secure	
GFCI outlets are installed and test properly	
Electrical boxes are covered and weatherproof	
Extension cords not used as permanent wiring	
Outdoor kitchen/outlets are up to code	

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Ha	rdscaping (Paths, Walls, Built Features)	Notes
	Walkways are level, safe, and crack-free	
	Retaining walls are structurally sound	
	Fire pits, seating walls, or built-ins in good shape	
	No signs of settling or poor installation	
	Materials blend well with landscape design	
Outdoor Structures		Notes
	Pergolas/gazebos/sheds, etc., secure; well-maintained	
	Roofs, canopies, or covers are intact	
	Structure is free from sagging or rot	
	Confirm which structures are included in the sale	
	Permits available (if applicable)	
Water Features & Irrigation		Notes
	Fountains or ponds are clean and functional	
	No signs of leaks or stagnant water	
	Sprinkler system zones function properly	
	Drip irrigation or timers are in good condition	
	Winterization and maintenance history available	
Additional Notes & Questions		Notes
	Ask seller about past outdoor repairs or upgrades	
	Ask for permits and documentation on major features	
	Request professional inspection of questionable areas	
	Other	
	Other	
	Other	