



HEARTBEAT FITNESS REPAIR

SERVICE • REPAIR • PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE

Factory-trained service for residential and commercial fitness equipment

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Closing Up for the Season: Storing Your Equipment While You're Away

CUSTOMER GUIDE | SNOWBIRD & VACATION-HOME STORAGE

Seasonal homes and community fitness rooms can sit unused through months of Florida heat and humidity. Moisture, dust, and pests can affect electronics, metal, upholstery, and belts. A shutdown routine can reduce damage, but storage does not guarantee readiness: inspect equipment and follow the exact model's startup instructions before reuse.



Four stages: clean it, prepare it, protect it, then check it when you come back.

BEFORE YOU LEAVE

1 Clean and dry everything

Wipe down consoles, handles, seats, frames, and belts, and let everything dry completely before covering it. Sweat left on frames and upholstery corrodes metal and breeds mildew over a long absence.

2 Do the prep your manual calls for

Follow the exact model's storage instructions. Lubricate only where required, with the specified product and interval; some surfaces must not receive added lubricant. Inspect belt position and wipe accessible surfaces without oiling cables by default.

3 Unplug and remove power sources

Switch off and unplug as the manual directs and remove the safety key. Remove only user-replaceable batteries where permitted; do not open housings or disconnect sealed or rechargeable battery packs.

4 Manage humidity

If the home will be closed up, keep the air conditioning running at a moderate setting rather than shutting it off, or use a dehumidifier. Steady, lower humidity is the single best thing for electronics and metal. Keep equipment away from exterior walls and windows.

5 Protect bare metal

Treat only surfaces the manufacturer permits, using the specified product. Keep oil off grips, running surfaces, cables, and brakes. Store weights securely on approved supports away from damp concrete.

6 Cover and raise

Use a dry, breathable cover and allow airflow. Do not balance heavy equipment on makeshift blocks. Relocate it only with suitable help and approved support; mats alone do not protect against flooding.

7 Stop the pests

In Florida, ants and roaches nest in warm, dark equipment housings, and mice can chew wiring. Keep food and trash out of the room and consider pest-control service while you are away.

WHEN YOU RETURN

- ☐ Uncover the equipment and look it over for dust, pests, rust, mildew, and any damage to cords.
- ☐ Wipe everything down, including the belt and frame.
- ☐ Check belt position; add lubricant only if your exact model requires it and service is due.
- ☐ Reconnect only if dry and undamaged; follow the exact model's startup and empty-belt test.
- ☐ Check cables, pedals, and fasteners for looseness; test the safety key and any emergency stop.
- ☐ If anything smells, sounds, or looks wrong, stop and call us.

LONGER ABSENCES & SEASONAL COMMUNITIES

- After a long absence, consider a professional inspection before restarting; follow model-specific checks.
 - **HOAs and condo boards:** If the fitness room is closed for part of the year, post a notice, disconnect power if allowed, and have the room checked before reopening.
 - Mildew or a musty smell? Find the moisture source. Use only surface-approved cleaning methods; extensive or internal contamination needs professional assessment.
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| ✗ Covering with plastic sheeting or non-breathable covers. | ✗ Leaving equipment plugged in while you are away. |
| ✗ Turning the A/C completely off in a closed Florida home. | ✗ Leaving batteries in consoles. |
| ✗ Skipping the belt check — a belt that was stored off-center can start the season rubbing. | ✗ Powering up equipment that shows moisture, corrosion, or chewed wiring. |

Want us to check it before you leave — or when you get back?

We offer pre-season shutdown and post-season startup inspections so your equipment is ready when you are. Call or email to schedule.

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General guidance. Follow your owner's manual for model-specific storage instructions.