



Texas Homestead Law

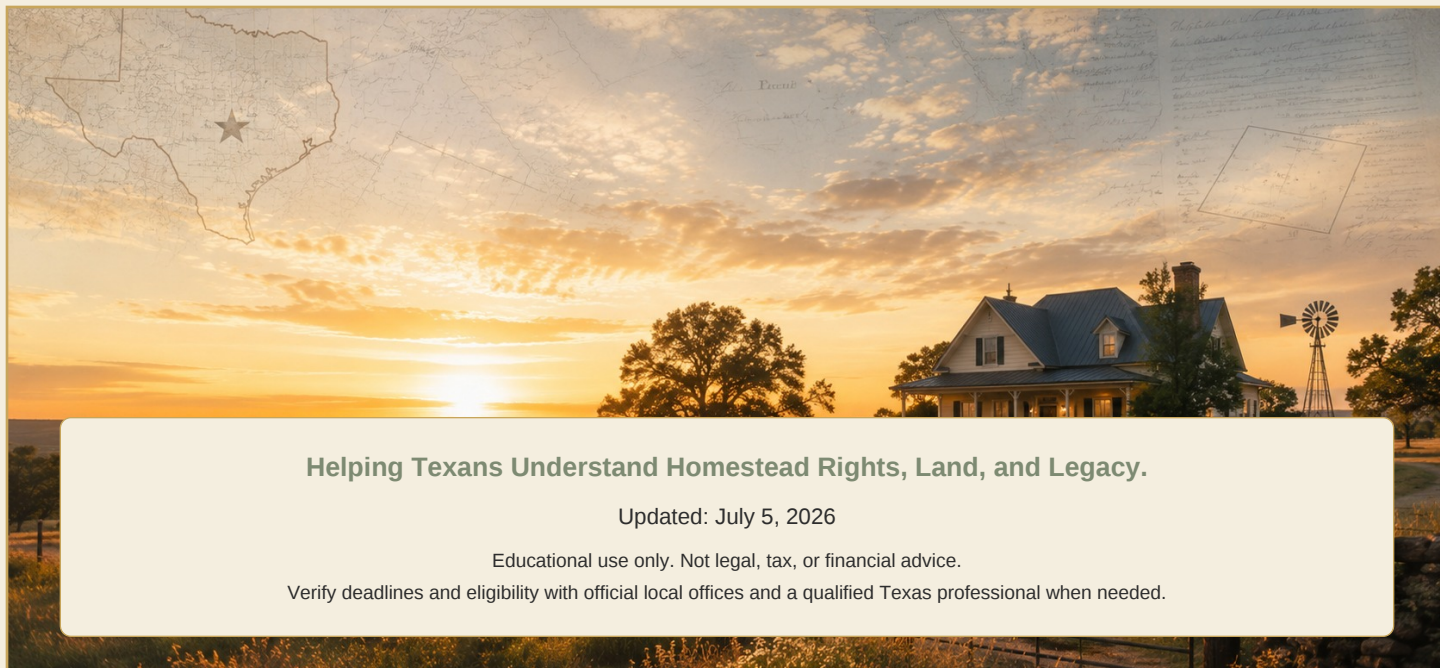
Helping Texans Understand Homestead Rights, Land, and Legacy.

FREE PRINTABLE RESOURCE

Primary Residence Checklist

A practical checklist for reviewing principal-residence facts before filing or confirming a Texas residence homestead exemption.

Download free. No email required.



Helping Texans Understand Homestead Rights, Land, and Legacy.

Updated: July 5, 2026

Educational use only. Not legal, tax, or financial advice.

Verify deadlines and eligibility with official local offices and a qualified Texas professional when needed.

Purpose of This Checklist

This worksheet helps a homeowner organize facts that may matter when asking whether a property is being used as the owner's principal residence. It does not decide eligibility. The appraisal district determines exemption eligibility for property-tax purposes.

Owner and property information

Property owner name(s)

Property address

County

Appraisal district account/property ID

Date acquired

Date first occupied as principal residence

Previous residence homestead exemption address, if any

Principal-residence review

☐ I occupy this property as my main home.

☐ My identification and important records are consistent with this address or I can explain why they are not.

☐ I am not claiming a residence homestead exemption on another property in Texas or outside Texas.

☐ I understand that temporary absences, new purchases, damaged homes, military service, and family circumstances may require extra review.

☐ If more than one person owns the property, I have reviewed who is applying and what ownership documentation exists.

☐ If the property came through inheritance, deed, transfer on death deed, divorce, or probate, I have gathered the documents.

Documents to Gather

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ Texas driver license or ID | ☐ Vehicle registration |
| ☐ Voter registration | ☐ Utility bill |
| ☐ Closing statement | ☐ Recorded deed |
| ☐ Mortgage statement | ☐ Property tax bill |
| ☐ Appraisal notice | ☐ Homestead application |
| ☐ Prior CAD letters | ☐ Lease or occupancy documents |
| ☐ Probate documents | ☐ Death certificate if relevant |
| ☐ Divorce decree if relevant | ☐ Power of attorney if relevant |
| ☐ Military orders if relevant | ☐ Disability/age proof if relevant |

Questions for the appraisal district

- ☐ What form should I use for the residence homestead exemption?
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- ☐ What supporting documents does this appraisal district require for my situation?
-
- ☐ If I purchased after January 1, how is the exemption applied for this tax year?
-
- ☐ Does the account show an existing exemption, and what year did it begin?
-
- ☐ Do you show any conflicting exemption, mailing address, ownership, or occupancy issue?
-
- ☐ Is this a late application situation, and what deadlines or limits apply?
-

Call notes / next steps

Source Notes & Review Checklist

Use these notes to verify the resource before publishing, especially after a legislative session, constitutional amendment election, Comptroller update, or local appraisal district change.

Texas Tax Code, Section 11.13 - Residence Homestead

Primary statute for residence homestead property-tax exemption framework.

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/docs/TX/htm/TX.11.htm>

Texas Comptroller - Property Tax Exemptions

Official overview of exemptions, filing location, general filing deadline, and current school-district exemption figures.

<https://comptroller.texas.gov/taxes/property-tax/exemptions/>

Texas Comptroller - Local Property Appraisal and Tax Information

State directory for local appraisal districts, county tax offices, and taxing units.

<https://comptroller.texas.gov/taxes/property-tax/county-directory/>

Publication review note: Keep this free resource outside any email gate. A monthly newsletter signup can appear nearby, but the PDF download should remain directly accessible.