YouTube Playlist Cleanup Checklist

Find dead videos, remove duplicates & back up – Free, No Signup
Tick it off on this page or download the PDF

1. Find what is broken

- [ ] **Look for entries labelled [Deleted video] or [Private video].**
  YouTube keeps the playlist slot but hides the title, channel and thumbnail, so the playlist looks shorter than it is.
  Find Deleted or Private Playlist Videos · Free hidden video checker

- [ ] **Recover the original title of each hidden video.**
  Knowing what it was lets you find a re-upload or decide it is not worth replacing.
  Find a Deleted or Private YouTube Video

- [ ] **Check for duplicates, including the same video added from different links.**
  Duplicates inflate the count and replay the same video back to back.
  YouTube Playlist Duplicate Finder · Free duplicate checker

- [ ] **Confirm the playlist visibility (public, unlisted or private) is what you intend.**
  A private playlist cannot be shared or embedded.
  Free playlist health check

- [ ] **Check the playlist is under YouTube's 5,000-video limit.**
  Near the limit, split it by theme instead of trimming.
  YouTube Playlist Length Calculator

2. Fix it

- [ ] **Remove the duplicates you found, keeping the copy in the right position.**
  Removing by hand in YouTube means scrolling a long list; a tool does it in one pass.
  YouTube Playlist Duplicate Remover

- [ ] **Delete or replace each deleted and private entry.**
  Replace with a re-upload if one exists; otherwise remove it so the count is honest.

- [ ] **Put the videos in an order that makes sense: date, title or duration.**
  Pick one rule and apply it to the whole playlist instead of dragging videos one by one.
  YouTube Playlist Sorter

- [ ] **Rewrite the playlist title and description in plain words that say who it is for.**
  A clear first line helps both viewers and search.

- [ ] **Split an oversized playlist into smaller themed ones.**
  Shorter playlists are easier to finish and easier to share.
  YouTube Playlist Manager

3. Protect it

- [ ] **Back up the playlist before any big edit.**
  Once a video is deleted from YouTube, its title is gone from the playlist. A backup keeps what you had.
  YouTube Playlist Backup & Restore

- [ ] **Keep a spreadsheet copy: title, channel, URL and duration of every video.**
  A CSV is your safety net and makes it easy to search the whole list.
  YouTube Playlist Export

- [ ] **Make a working copy to experiment on, and edit that instead of the original.**
  Safe for trying a new order or a big prune.
  YouTube Playlist Copier

4. Keep it tidy

- [ ] **Set a monthly reminder to re-run the 'find what is broken' checks.**
  Videos disappear at random, so a quick monthly check catches them early.
- [ ] **Add new videos to the right playlist the day you save them.**
  Backlogs are where duplicates and mess start.
  YouTube Playlist Builder
- [ ] **Archive playlists you no longer use instead of letting them rot.**
  Set them to private and note the date in the description.

Find deleted and private videos, remove duplicates, sort and back up any playlist. Free at www.myfreshtools.com/resources/youtube-playlist-cleanup-checklist