

PREPARE YOUR HOME FOR SALE

Outside: Maintain the landscaping. Trim all bushes. Pull all weeds. Plant flowers and plants. Rake leaves. Water lawn to keep green. Discard or store all implements, materials, and debris that are not part of the lawn décor. Wash all windows. Garage should be swept, neat, and tidy.

Lighting: Open all shades and draperies during the daylight hours. Replace all burned out light bulbs. Turn on all lights throughout the house prior to showing.

Storage: All clothing, shoes, hats, accessories, tools, papers, magazines, books, and personal items not contributing to the décor of the room should be stored in closets and drawers. All closets should be tidy, neat, and clean. Kitchen counters should be clean and free of any articles not contributing to the décor of the room. All magazines, books, ashtrays, food, bottles, boxes, containers, cans, toys, dishes, cookware, etc. should be stored in the proper cupboards or closet storage areas. Basement storage areas should be neatly arranged.

Closets: The interiors of all closets should present an organized, tidy, and uncluttered appearance. Pack away or discard all unneeded or unused items. Display your storage and utility space by removing all unnecessary accumulations in attic, stairways, basement, closets, and garage.

Basement: Should be neat, clean, dry, and tidy. Store all materials and tools on shelves or in cabinets. Discard as much unneeded material as possible prior to showing your home to prospective purchasers.

Windows: All windows should be spotlessly clean, inside and out. All windowsills should be free of any flaking or loose paint. Any paint on glass should be removed with a razor blade prior to cleaning. All windows should be in good repair with no cracks. Screens should be clean and in good condition, free of rust and holes.

Fixtures: All bathroom and kitchen fixtures and counter tops should be sparkling clean. Polish chrome handles and faucets in the sinks and tubs. All sinks, tubs, toilets, and counters should be clean.

Floors: Clean all floors. All carpeting should be very clean regardless of its age. If the carpet has not been steam cleaned within a year, now is the time to do it.

Doors: All doors should be free of scotch tape, posters, decals, or stickers. All doorknobs or handles should be clean and in good condition.

Ceramic Tile: All joints between tiles should be clean and white. Use DAP bathroom tile sealer to reseal the joint between the bathtub and the wall and floor.

Walls: All walls should be clean and free of smudges, gouges, scratches, scotch tape, thumbtacks, posters, etc. Walls should only have decorative items. Remove all posters and pictures taped to walls as well as all tape marking evidence from the walls.

Odor: Nothing smells better than fresh air. Make sure there are absolutely no pet odors. Make your home feel and smell bright, fresh, and clean and you will have a faster sale.