

Getting Your Home READY TO SELL

It is important to get and maintain your property in the best possible condition to impress buyers, agents, appraisers and inspectors. Use this handy interior and exterior checklist to identify areas of your home that need work before you put it on the market.



ATTIC

- Check underside of roof for leaks, stains or dampness
- Look around chimney for condensation or signs of water
- Clean and clear ventilation openings if necessary
- Clean out stored items
- Have it professionally sprayed for insects

WALLS AND CEILINGS

- Check condition of paint and wallpaper
- Repair cracks, holes or damage to plaster or drywall
- Clean off fingerprints, smudges, grease and dirt
- Put on a couple coats of a neutral color paint if necessary
- Wipe down light switches

WINDOWS AND DOORS

- Check for smooth operation
- Replace broken or cracked panes
- Repair any broken seals
- Check condition of weather stripping and caulking
- Examine paint
- Test doorbell or chimes
- Test burglar alarms
- Clean windows to let in as much light as possible; clean window sills, tracks, blinds and valances
- Eliminate squeaking and creaking
- Clean doors and area around handles
- Clean front door and consider repainting if needed

FLOORS

- Inspect for creaking boards, loose, missing or cracked tiles and worn areas and make repairs as needed
- Check baseboards and moldings
- Test the staircases for loose handrails or posts, worn tread, carpet and creaks
- Correct any issues with carpet including stains, overstretching and hanging threads

BATHROOMS

- Check tile joints, grout and caulking
- Remove mildew and mold
- Repair leaking faucets and shower heads
- Make sure drains are working properly
- Check the condition of painted or wallpapered walls
- Test operation of toilet and faucets
- Ensure chrome sparkles and all fixtures look as new as possible
- Clean exhaust fan vent
- Clean light fixtures

KITCHEN

- Clean and polish all appliances
- Clean ventilator or exhaust fan on stove
- Remove grease or dust from tiles, walls and doors
- Organize cabinets and refrigerator
- Remove dangerous items, such as knives that may be at a child's height on center island or counters
- Clean interior of oven