Get your house into shape and wow potential homebuyers!

Don't list your home without advance preparation. Buyer are looking for a home for sale in pristine condition. Use these tips to get your home ready for potential buyers.

- **1. Landscaping.** First impressions go a long way! Mow the lawn, prune the bushes, weed the garden, and plant some flowers.
- **2. Clean Outside.** A sloppy exterior is a bad first impression. Clean the gutters and pressure wash your home's siding. Rent tools or hire a professional.
- **3. Front Door.** A fresh coat of paint will make the front door stand out. Replace faded house numbers so buyers can see them from the curb. Buy a new welcome mat. It's a way to let buyers know they're invited into your home.
- **4. House Repairs.** In a buyer's market, you want your home to be in the best condition possible. Take care of major defects like broken windows or a leaky roof that could discourage buyers.
- **5. Declutter.** A good rule of thumb is to eliminate half of your belongings. Rent a storage unit or portable pod for furniture or personal belongings. You can also donate items as well.
- **6. Depersonalize.** Buyers want to envision their belongings in your home. Get rid of any art or other decor that might turn off people with different tastes. Rent a storage unit for knicknacks, family photos, posters, extra furniture, and other personal items.

- **7. Clean, Clean.** Clean from top to bottom. Don't have time? Hire a professional maid or team to visit for a cleaning. It's not as expensive as you might think.
- **8. Paint Your Walls.** Choose a neutral color palette that will appeal to a wide range of buyers. It might not be your personal style, but studies say that painting walls in fresh, natural-looking colors, make a home feel larger and are also neutral enought to help buyers envision themselves living in the space.
- **9. Bad Odor.** Buy an air neutralizer and spray it often. When showing the home, fill it with inviting but not overpowering aromas. Strategically place fresh flowers or bake a batch of cookies. Nothing says "home" like the smell of fresh-baked cookies.
- **10. Closets and Drawers.** Messy closets give the appearance that your home doesn't have enough storage space. You never know where a buyer might look when touring a home for sale.

We hope you found this information useful. Academy Mortgage is here to help you!





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