

Is your home ready? A checklist.

To get the best return on your home, you need to make your home look its best. Here's the checklist that will help you do it.

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Inside your home

Floor coverings

(carpeting, tile, linoleum, hardwood, etc.)

- ☐ Dirt or stains?
- ☐ Excessive wear or damage?
- ☐ Area rugs clean and stain-free?

Walls and ceilings

- ☐ Dirt, fingerprints or other stains?
- ☐ Nail or thumb-crack holes, tape residue?
- ☐ Cracks, chips, water damage?
- ☐ Need for repainting or new wallpaper?
- ☐ Neutral, light colours for roomy environment?

Doors

- ☐ Dirt, fingerprints or other stains?
- ☐ Need new paint?
- ☐ Open/close easily without squeaks?
- ☐ Latches/handles secure and working properly?

Windows

- ☐ Glass sparkling clean/chip- and crack-free?
- ☐ Open/close easily?
- ☐ Latches/handles/locks secure, working properly?
- ☐ Dirt and fingerprints on frames or sills?
- ☐ Screens clean and without holes?
- ☐ Storm windows in good condition?

Window coverings

(curtains, drapes, blinds, etc.)

- ☐ Dirt or stains?
- ☐ Excessive wear or sun damage?
- ☐ Open/close easily, hardware working properly?

Lighting

(lighting makes a room feel more inviting)

- ☐ All bulbs working and proper wattage?
- ☐ Broken switches, exposed wiring?
- ☐ Table and floor lamps working properly?

Pet areas

- ☐ Clean, organized, odour-free?

Entryways and hallways

- ☐ Clean and free of clutter or obstructions?
- ☐ Welcome mat(s) clean and inviting?

Closets and storage areas

- ☐ Clean and well organized?
- ☐ Clutter and excess junk removed?
- ☐ Clothes hung neatly and not jammed together?
- ☐ Shoes and boots neatly stored/stacked?

Kitchen

- ☐ Every surface sparkling clean?
- ☐ Countertops organized, all but daily use appliances?
- ☐ Refrigerator spotless inside and out?
- ☐ Organized? Spoiled food discarded?
- ☐ Frost removed? Light bulbs working? (Buyers look!)
- ☐ Oven/stovetop clean? Burner trays cleaned?
- ☐ Sinks clean; faucets working properly and leak-free?
- ☐ Garbage disposal in good working condition?
- ☐ Cupboards/pantry spotless, organized?
- ☐ Dishwasher clean and stain-free?

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**Living room, dining room,
bedrooms, den and study**

- ☐ Everything thoroughly vacuumed/dusted?
- ☐ Excess furniture removed for roomier atmosphere?
- ☐ Remaining furniture clean and in good repair?
- ☐ Wood and other surfaces clean and polished?
- ☐ Bookshelves neat, organized and clutter-free?
- ☐ Children's games/toys stored neatly?
- ☐ Fragile items removed and stored?
- ☐ Smaller valuables removed/locked away?
- ☐ Window coverings open for views and sunlight?
- ☐ Mirrors clean and in good repair?
- ☐ Ashtrays cleaned and kept out of sight?
- ☐ Fireplace clean, logs/kindling stacked neatly?

Bathrooms/powder room

- ☐ Every surface sparkling clean?
- ☐ Countertops organized, free of clutter? Fresh soap?
- ☐ Sinks spotlessly clean, faucets working properly?
- ☐ Tub and shower surfaces clean?
- ☐ Towels stain-free and hanging neatly?
- ☐ Shower curtain clean and in good repair?
- ☐ Toilet extra-clean and working properly?
- ☐ Closets organized and clutter-free?
- ☐ Medicine cabinet clean, "personal items" removed?

**Basement, furnace room,
garage, attic storeroom**

- ☐ Clean and well-organized?
- ☐ Clutter and excess "junk" removed?
- ☐ Remaining items stored/stacked neatly?
- ☐ Everything thoroughly vacuumed/dusted?

Outside your home

Structures

- ☐ Exterior surfaces clean, in good condition?
- ☐ Front-door exterior clean, inviting?
- ☐ Eavestroughs and downspouts clean, in good repair?
- ☐ Gates open/close properly, hardware working?
- ☐ Fences/decks in good repair, in good condition?
- ☐ Sidewalks and walkways in good repair?
- ☐ Driveway clean, in good repair?

Yard and environment

- ☐ Driveways, sidewalks clear of snow, ice?
- ☐ Lawns mowed/edged regularly?
- ☐ Large bare spots repaired?
- ☐ Leaves removed from lawns and flower beds?
- ☐ Trees pruned, hedges trimmed?
- ☐ Flower beds weeded and tidy; dead plants replaced?
- ☐ "Junk" and scrap removed?
- ☐ Lawn furniture clean, organized, good repair?
- ☐ Bicycles, children's toys stored neatly, out of way?
- ☐ Firewood organized and neatly stacked?
- ☐ Dog runs secure, yard free of "doggy deposits"?