



Tips to sell your home for the best price

Curb Appeal

First impressions make a difference, particularly when it comes to your home. Curb appeal is the visual impression that your home makes to anyone viewing it from the street. If your home has curb appeal it will stand out from the rest and usually results in more money when you decide to sell. The following list contains some quick fixes that will have your home creating a great first impression in no time at all!

Windows: Clean windows sparkle and help show off your beautiful home

Window Coverings: How do your curtains and blinds look from the outside? Are your windows cluttered with knick-knacks and stickers? Neaten up the inside of your home's window areas that are visible from the curb.

Painting: Walk around your home and keep an eye out for peeling, flaking, or faded paint. If found, it is probably a good time to paint. Neutral colors are a good bet as they appeal to a wider group of people.

Mailbox: Be sure it is painted or polished. All numbers should be clean and easy to read.

Clutter: Remove anything that is cluttering the front area. Locate trash bins in the back yard or garage so that they are not visible.

Easy Fix-ups Tips

Clean everything in and out of sight. Shampoo rugs and wax floors. Wash walls. Wash windows and clean blinds and draperies.

Weed clutter out of closets and cupboards.

Create space by storing some of the extra furniture you've found useful but which makes a crowded impression. Place the remaining furniture so that traffic can flow easily from room to room.

Scale down your personal artwork, posters, and family photos, especially teenagers' rooms. Create a feeling of spaciousness.

Keep shades and draperies open, to admit as much light as possible, but screen out unappealing views.

Let your kitchen look warm and welcoming, not a hectic workplace. Keep your sink shining and free of dirty dishes at all times. Clean the refrigerator.

Keep counter tops clear, but not empty (as if unused); adorn them with your most attractive canisters.

Completely degrease your oven. Let the kitchen smell fresh and fragrant.

Remove debris (dust, flies, moths, etc.) from all the light fixtures.

Keep bathrooms scrubbed, tidy, and equipped with fresh soap and neatly-hung towels (matching if possible).

Hang mirrors where they will reflect outdoor light – as well as make a room look bigger.

If you've repainted, (preferably in safe neutral tones) add bold splashes of color with your brightest throw pillows, crockery, or pictures.

Place plants in strategic spots in any room – the bigger the more glamorous, if space permits

Light the whole home, especially dark corners and hallways

Fix doorbells, tighten loose door-knobs, and oil squeaking hinges.

Feature (with lighting or furniture arrangements) your home's best characteristics (fireplace, picture window, balcony, etc.)

Get rid of all stains and install new washers on dripping faucets.

Clean off your outdoor furniture; remove any rust (or toss out the rusted item).

Clear out the garage of everything but the cars. If yours has become a 2-car attic, throw out the excess.

Fill potholes in your driveway and tidy up walkways.



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Adding Color to your Yard

The landscaping can enhance the curb appeal of your home. It is amazing how the addition of colorful flowers and eye catching plants can change the overall look and feel of your home.

It is important not to go overboard with a wild array of colors. Experts suggest using a dominant color for 70 percent of your yard and one or two supporting colors for the other 30 percent.

If you are looking for some areas in which to add color, the following list will get you started.

A welcoming doorway

Make the front walk look inviting. Flowers and colorful pots will brighten up your porch

Property line or fence

Choose several types of flowers with different bloom periods to sustain the floral motif.

Retaining wall

Plant an assortment of flowers that will bloom during different times of the year

Lamppost or mailbox: These areas are generally small, so look for flowers that do not need much growing room.