

Home Buying Checklist



Before Starting to Search

- _____ Get educated on the current market by sitting down with your Realtor. It doesn't cost anything and the knowledge gained will save huge amounts of time and money as you move forward

- _____ Get pre-approved before looking at homes
 - _____ learn your credit score
 - _____ establish what you are comfortable spending as a monthly payment
 - _____ define your price range, as this is a large factor in your search

- _____ Write your "must have" criteria on a separate list than your "we'd like" criteria and focus mainly on the former list. This helps elevate the best homes while you are selecting one.

While Viewing Homes

- _____ Check the neighborhood and remember the saying "location, location, location!"

- _____ Attempt to locate the property lines and corners

- _____ Things to look for outside that can be expensive to fix
 - _____ roof condition and type - does it need fixed/replaced?
 - _____ siding condition and type - does it need painted/replaced?
 - _____ window condition and type - do they need replaced/updated?

- _____ Analyze the floor plan layout - will it work for your needs?

- _____ Things to look for inside that can be expensive to fix
 - _____ flooring condition and type - does it need cleaned/replaced?
 - _____ check for leaks and swelling in bathrooms at toilet and tub/shower
 - _____ check for smells / odors from animals or smokers (this can be remedied with new paint and flooring)
 - _____ depth of garage - will my car fit inside?
 - _____ list questions or items to follow up on

During Offer / Contingencies To Be Met

- _____ Submit a strong offer with a reasonable amount of earnest money

- _____ Get a copy of the CC&Rs and Road Maintenance Agreement (if applicable)

- _____ Hire a professional home inspector

- _____ Make sure you confirm what stays or goes (appliances, yard décor, etc)