

Preparing Your HomeThrough the Eyes of a Buyer

The effort put into repairing and cleaning your property is likely to be returned in a fast sale at an attractive price.

- As buyers approach your property the first time, impressions are formed quickly.
- Paint house-This can do more for sales appeal than any other factor.
- Yard-Remove all toys, garbage, garden tools and other items from view.
- Mow lawn and keep edged.
- Close garage doors.
- Put colorful flowers in front of house.

Often, while waiting to be let in, the first thing a buyer looks at closely is the front door.

- Put new paint on the front door.
- Buy a new door mat.
- Ensure that there is plenty of lighting.
- Sweep or vacuum floor.
- Stack items neatly against walls.

The kitchen is often the most important room in the house.

Make it bright and attractive.

- Put a vase of fresh flowers on the table.
- Replace curtains or clean existing ones.
- Remove appliances from counters.
- Create a pleasant fragrance in the kitchen
(i.e. vanilla, cinnamon).

It is important that bathrooms are clean, bright and smell fresh.

- Install a new shower curtain and replace worn throw rugs.
- Polish all fixtures.
- Open windows.
- Hang bright, fresh towels.
- Use air freshener.
- Display colorful soaps.

The Living Room.

- Clean out the fireplace and place logs in it.
- Polish all woodwork.
- Put big furniture in storage so rooms are not cluttered or crowded.

Repair & Cleaning Checklist

Front Door:

- Newly painted
- Doorbell operating
- Door brass polished
- Hinges oiled

Exterior of House:

- House recently painted
- Doorbell operating
- Gutters recently cleaned
- Exterior lights operating
- Missing shingles replaced
- Leaves removed from roof

Windows:

- Window trims painted
- Windows operating freely
- Cracked windowpanes replaced
- Windows washed

Driveway:

- Resurfaced
- Potholes patched
- Recently sealed

Patios:

- Wood stained or painted
- Fencing secure

Lawn:

- Lawn in good condition
- Grass mowed
- Edges trimmed

Trees/Shrubs:

- Dead branches pruned
- Dead shrubs replaced
- Overgrown shrubs pruned

Living Room:

- Recently painted
- Cracks in ceiling/walls repaired
- Leaks repaired & watermarks covered
- Wallpaper secured
- Woodwork repainted
- Curtains/drapes/blinds cleaned
- Drapes/blinds opened
- Carpets cleaned
- Furniture positioned to show space

Kitchen:

- ❑ Sink free of stains
- ❑ No dripping faucets
- ❑ Appliances in good working order
- ❑ Walls, cabinets free of stains
- ❑ Countertops cleared and cleaned
- ❑ Pantry neatly arranged
- ❑ Pantry hardware replaced
- ❑ Refrigerator defrosted

Family Room:

- ❑ Cracks in ceiling/walls repaired
- ❑ Leaks repaired & watermarks covered
- ❑ Wallpaper secured
- ❑ Woodwork repainted
- ❑ Windows washed
- ❑ Curtains/drapes/blinds cleaned
- ❑ Windows operating freely
- ❑ Drapes/blinds opened
- ❑ Carpets cleaned
- ❑ Hobby supplies put away

Bedrooms:

- ❑ Cracks in ceiling/walls repaired
- ❑ Leaks repaired & watermarks covered
- ❑ Wallpaper secured
- ❑ Woodwork repaired
- ❑ Windows washed
- ❑ Curtains/drapes/blinds cleaned
- ❑ Floor waxed/refinished & grout cleaned
- ❑ Carpets cleaned
- ❑ Beds made
- ❑ Laundry put away
- ❑ Floor free from clutter

Dining Room:

- ❑ Cracks in ceiling/walls repaired
- ❑ Leaks repaired & watermarks covered
- ❑ Wallpaper secured
- ❑ Woodwork repainted
- ❑ Windows washed
- ❑ Drapes/blinds opened
- ❑ Floor waxed/refinished
- ❑ Carpets cleaned

Entry:

- ❑ Entry lights operating
- ❑ Floors cleaned
- ❑ Closet cleaned
- ❑ Closet light operating

Bathrooms:

- ❑ Sink stains removed
- ❑ Leaky faucets repaired
- ❑ Grouting stains removed
- ❑ All joints caulked
- ❑ Missing tiles replaced
- ❑ All fixtures operating
- ❑ Floors cleaned
- ❑ New shower curtain
- ❑ All supplies stored
- ❑ Guest towels