

Potential buyers usually decide within minutes whether a home is right for them. As you prepare your home to go on the market, try to view it through the eyes of a buyer. We have provided some tips below to assist you in preparing to sell your home.

General

- A fresh coat of paint is fast, easy and affordable – consider repainting the kitchen, bathrooms, bedrooms and other areas
- Use a neutral color scheme when making any decorating choices
- Neatness makes a home look bigger; avoid clutter
- Avoid too many personal items, such as family photos
- · Cleanliness counts
- Make sure all closets and shelving units are straightened

Kitchen

- Make sure it is bright and attractive
- Consider new window treatments
- $\boldsymbol{\cdot}$ If the flooring is badly worn, replace it
- Replace any loose or cracked tiles on counters and walls
- Avoid leaving dirty dishes in the kitchen sink or on the counters
- Clean and uncluttered counters add a sense of spaciousness
- Remove any appliances or decorative items from counters

Bathroom

- · Repair any dripping faucets
- Always hang fresh, clean towels in the bathrooms
- Remove any stains from toilets, sinks, bathtubs and showers
- · Clean this room every morning
- Updating old fixtures can make a big difference
- Unclog sinks, bathtubs or showers that drain slowly

Living Areas/Bedrooms

- Make sure wall surfaces are in good shape – repair all cracks and nail holes
- Make sure the windows are in good condition; replace cracked or broken glass/torn screens and wash the windows
- Also, make sure windows open and close smoothly
- · Check ceilings for leak stains
- Replace faded curtains or bedspreads
- If you have a fireplace, clean it out and put in fresh logs
- Replace burned-out light bulbs and make sure light switches work

- Clean floors and vacuum rugs and carpeting
- Fix any doors or sliding glass doors that stick
- Keep toys inside children's rooms in orderly fashion

Garage

- Clean out your garage
- Dispose of anything you are not going to move
- Make sure the garage door opener is in good working condition

Outside

- Make sure the front door and entry area are clean
- Repaint the front door if necessary
- Keep the lawn and shrubs trimmed and neat looking
- The proper landscaping can add an attractive and inviting touch
- Sweep walkways and driveways
- Consider painting or touching up your house
- Check the roof and gutters

