

Tips To Help Your Home Show Its Best

Exterior

Paint

Few things will enhance the salability of a house quite as much as painting. A fresh coat of paint gives the impression of a well-cared for home.

Front Entry

This is where the buyers get their first opportunity to make a close inspection. Polish door brass, replace anything badly worn or broken, put out a new door mat, weed and prune near the entry and have some flowering plants growing.

Yard

Mow and trim lawn. Weed flower beds, replace dead plants and trees.

Driveway and Garage

Clean up grease or oil stains. Make sure garage door opens properly and electric door opener is in good condition.

Roof

Remove any debris, such as tree branches. Make any necessary repairs.

Patio

Have patio furniture clean and in good condition.

Interior

Windows

Repair or replace bent screens. Cut back foliage if it restricts light. Have windows sparkling clean. Draperies should work smoothly, hang properly and be clean.

Doors

Repair or replace where necessary. All doors should open and close freely, including closet doors, patio doors and sliding doors. Tighten hardware, such as doorknobs and cabinet pulls.

Walls

Painting pays dividends. Wallpaper should be clean and adhere to walls properly.

Floors

Repair or replace missing and damaged tile. Repair grout if necessary.

Carpet

Have the carpet professionally cleaned. Loose carpet should be properly anchored.

Lights

Putting the maximum wattage bulb recommended by the manufacturer will do wonders. Prospective buyers love light and bright.

Plumbing

Repair noisy toilets and leaky faucets.

Tidy Up

One of the best and least expensive ways to improve the show ability of your home is to open up as much space as possible. Remove any unnecessary furniture or items. Buyers need to be able to picture the home with their belongings in it.

Closets and Storage Areas

One of the most frequently voiced requirements of a prospective buyer is for closet and storage space. Open up your storage areas by getting rid of items you aren't using.

Counters and Cabinets

The same principle applies here. Do some discarding in the kitchen and bath cabinets. Store infrequently used countertop appliances.

Garage

Clean and organize as much as possible.

Bathrooms

Keep vanity, sink, faucet hardware and mirrors sparkling clean. Clean shower doors, bath mats and grout. Re-caulk if necessary.

Kitchen

Prospective buyers will inspect this area carefully. Clean stove inside and out. Replace stained reflector plates on range top. Clean exhaust hood. Grinding a lemon in the disposal will add a fresh scent.