

# 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)