

## 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 moving forward. \*\*\*This needs to be done FIRST.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 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 typically be remedied)
  - \_\_\_\_\_ 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).