

Prepare Your Home for Market Checklist

Living/Family Rooms

Clean, Repair, Repaint, or Replace:

Doors and doorknobs.
Windows and windowsills.
Light fixtures, bulbs, and switch covers.
Outlets and outlet covers.
Walls, baseboards, and trim.
Carpet, rugs, hardwood, and tile.

Blinds and curtains.
Air vents and filters.
Counter tops and shelves.
Ceiling fans.
Dust everything.
Fireplace and mantel.

Create a Welcoming Atmosphere:

Declutter: personal items, family photos, toys, books, magazines, and small appliances/electronics, etc.
Minimize furniture.
Rearrange furniture to maximize space.
Maximize natural light.

Deodorize room.
Remove unnecessary items from surfaces.
Remove unnecessary items on walls.
Reduce or add house plants – if necessary.

Dining Room

Clean, Repair, Repaint, or Replace:

Doors and doorknobs.
Windows and windowsills.
Light fixtures, bulbs, and switch covers.
Outlets and outlet covers.
Walls, baseboards, and trim.

Carpet, hardwood, and tile.
Blinds and curtains.
Air vents and filters.
Counter tops and shelves.
Dust everything.

Create a Welcoming Atmosphere:

Declutter: personal items, family photos, toys books, magazines, and small appliances/electronics, etc.
Minimize furniture.
Rearrange furniture to maximize space.

Maximize natural light.
Deodorize room.
Remove unnecessary items from surfaces and walls.
Reduce or add house plants – if necessary.

Kitchen

Clean, Repair, Repaint, or Replace:

Doors and doorknobs.
Windows and windowsills.
Light fixtures, bulbs, and switch covers.
Outlets and outlet covers.
Walls, baseboards, and trim.
Carpet, hardwood, and tile.
Blinds and curtains.
Air vents and filters.

Counter tops and shelves.
Dust everything.
Inside and outside of appliances.
Inside and outside of cabinets.
Inside and outside of drawers.
Sink, faucet, and garbage disposal.
Tile grout.

Create a Welcoming Atmosphere:

Declutter: personal items, family photos, toys, books, magazines, and small appliances/electronics, etc.

Remove unnecessary items on walls.
Reduce or add house plants – if necessary.

Minimize furniture.
Rearrange furniture to maximize space.
Maximize natural light.
Deodorize room.
Remove unnecessary items from surfaces.

Organize pantry.
Minimize dishes, utensils, and cooking supplies.
Remove any magnets on your refrigerator.
Empty garbage before showings.
Store pet dishes before showings.

Bedrooms

Clean, Repair, Repaint, or Replace:

Doors and doorknobs.
Windows and windowsills.
Light fixtures, bulbs, and switch covers.
Outlets and outlet covers.
Walls, baseboards, and trim.
Carpet, hardwood, and tile.

Blinds and curtains.
Air vents and filters.
Counter tops and shelves.
Ceiling fans.
Dust everything.

Create a Welcoming Atmosphere:

Declutter: personal items, family photos, toys, books, magazines, and small appliances/electronics, etc.
Minimize furniture.
Rearrange furniture to maximize space.
Maximize natural light.

Deodorize room.
Remove unnecessary items from surfaces.
Remove unnecessary items on walls.
Reduce or add house plants – if necessary.
Make your beds.

Bathrooms

Clean, Repair, Repaint, or Replace:

Doors and doorknobs.
Windows and windowsills.
Light fixtures, bulbs, and switch covers.
Outlets and outlet covers.
Walls, baseboards, and trim.
Carpet, hardwood, and tile.
Blinds and curtains.
Air vents and filters.
Counter tops and shelves.

Dust everything.
Inside and outside of cabinets.
Inside and outside of drawers.
Sink and faucet.
Tile grout.
Mirrors.
Bath and shower.
Bathroom mats and towels.
Toilet.

Create a Welcoming Atmosphere:

Declutter: personal items, family photos, toys, books, magazines, and small appliances/electronics, etc.
Minimize furniture.
Rearrange furniture to maximize space.
Maximize natural light.
Deodorize room.
Remove unnecessary items from surfaces.

Remove unnecessary items on walls.
Reduce or add house plants – if necessary.
Invest in new towels – if necessary.
Invest in new bathroom mats – if necessary.
Invest in new shower curtain – if necessary.
Remove all shower/bath products before showings.
Store medication before showings.

Closets

Clean, Repair, Repaint, or Replace:

Doors and doorknobs.
Light fixtures, bulbs, and switch covers.

Dust everything.
Shelves

Walls, baseboards, and trim.
Carpet, hardwood, and tile.

Closet rod.
Closet door hangers.

Create a Welcoming Atmosphere:

Declutter: personal items, family photos, toys, books, magazines, and small appliances/electronics, etc.
Deodorize room.

Remove unnecessary items from shelves.
Remove unnecessary items on walls.
Organize closet.

Garage

Clean, Repair, Repaint, or Replace:

Doors and doorknobs.
Windows and windowsills.
Light fixtures, bulbs, and switch covers.
Outlets and outlet covers.
Walls, baseboards, and trim.
Counter tops, shelves, and racks.

Blinds.
Dust everything.
Stairs.
Garage door and switch.
Sweep the floor.
Power wash stains out of cement floor.

Create a Welcoming Atmosphere:

Declutter: personal items, family photos, toys, books, magazines, and small appliances/electronics, etc.
Deodorize room.
Remove unnecessary items from shelves.

Remove unnecessary items on walls.
Organize tools, equipment, and storage.
Move nonessential items to off-site storage.
Move cars off-site before showings.

House - External

Clean, Repair, Repaint, or Replace:

Doors (Front, side, back), doorknobs, and screens.
Windows, window screens, and shutters.
Light fixtures, bulbs, and switch covers.
Outlets and outlet covers.
Walls and trim.
Gutters and downspouts.
Replace warped and rotten wood.

Repair cracks on walls, walkways, and driveway.
Remove debris from all walkways, driveways, porches, patios, decks, and stairs.
Pressure wash cement, brick, stone, and wood to remove heavy dirt and stains.
Restain wood – patio, deck, and railing.
Repair roof – if necessary.

Create a Welcoming Atmosphere:

Declutter the perimeter and throw away trash.
Critique your home's exterior – get a second opinion from a friend or neighbor.
Show use of space by placing outdoor furniture on patio and in the backyard.

Organize tools, equipment, and storage.
Replace mailbox – if necessary.
Replace welcome mat – if necessary.
Replace address numbers – if necessary.

Front and Backyard

Create a Welcoming Atmosphere:

Mow, weed, fertilize, and water the lawn.
Rake leaves and remove dead foliage.
Trim foliage (bushes, shrubs, and trees)
Repair or replace any broken planters.

Store yard and landscaping equipment.
Repair or replace light fixtures, lamps, etc.
Clean pool and jacuzzi.
Plant new flowers, shrubs, and trees – if necessary.

Clean up pet droppings

Repair irrigation system – if necessary.