

# HOME PREP CHECKLIST

When selling it's important to look at your home from the buyers perspective. While it can be sad to pack away personal items, we want the buyer to see the space and not the "stuff". We always say "when in doubt, clean it out"

## **Tidy up!**

Less is always more. By storing personal and rarely used items your home will feel more inviting.

## **Clean up!**

A clean home gives the impression it has been well cared for.

## **Patch up!**

Minor repairs can become major stumbling blocks for buyers. Take away the distraction before they become major

## **The finishing touch!**

The "extras" make your home stand out against the competition

## **EXTERIOR**

### **Tidy up!**

- Mow the lawn, trim trees and shrubs that are close to the house.
- Rake leaves, weed and dispose of dead plants, flowers and shrubs
- Store tools in garage or shed.

### **Clean up!**

- Wash windows inside and out. Remove screens and store in basement or garage.
- Sweep all sidewalks, driveways and patios.
- Wash any moss or dirt off siding (be careful NOT to power wash the roof)
- Clean gutters

### **Patch up!**

- Repair doors and windows
- Repair cracks in driveway
- Repair roof shingles, shutters, gutters, siding and fencing.

### **The finishing touch!**

- Add a fresh doormat to the entrance
- Add a potted plant
- Add new house numbers

## **KITCHEN**

### **Tidy up!**

- Clear extra gadgets from kitchen counters (air fryers, coffee accessories, toasters etc)
- Remove all pictures, messages and magnets from refrigerator.
- Clear away all papers, mail or other items
- Pack away items you won't be using before your move (crockpot, turkey roaster, etc)
- Organize the pantry (it's a great time to throw away expired products!

### **Clean up!**

- Wipe down cabinets & polish sinks
- Clean all appliances, inside and out
- Wash floors
- Air out garbage area with deodorizer or neutralizer

### **Patch up!**

- Repair any faucet / sink leaks
- Replace lightbulbs in appliances and light fixtures if needed

## **BATHROOMS**

### **Tidy up!**

- Clear countertops of toothbrushes, hair brushes, makeup etc
- Organize closets, medicine cabinets etc (great time to get rid of expired items)
- Remove any prescription medications

### **Clean up!**

- Repair any faucet, sink and / or toilet leaks
- Caulk and grout tile if necessary
- Deep clean tubs / showers / toilets
- Paint baseboard heaters if rusted.

### **The finishing touch!**

- Replace shower curtains
- Add matching towels and hand towels
- Replace toilet paper with a fresh roll
- Close toilet lid



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## LIVING AREAS

### Tidy up!

- Remove piles of papers and magazines from tables
- Rearrange furniture; donate pieces that won't be moving with you, store "extra" pieces in basement or garage
- Remove personal photos

### Clean up!

- Clean all carpets, wash all floors
- Polish / dust all furniture
- Wipe down lighting fixtures, replace any burnt out lightbulbs
- Wash window treatments
- Remove screens and store in garage or basement
- Wipe down baseboards
- Clean fireplace

### Patch up!

- Patch and paint walls and ceilings, if needed

### The finishing touch!

- Add fresh flowers
- Rearrange pictures
- Add additional lighting if room is dark

## BEDROOMS

### Tidy up!

- Organize toys, pack away rarely used items (you can have fun opening in your new house!)
- Remove any extra furniture
- Downsize closets... pack away seasonal clothes. A great rule of thumb is pack or donate 50% of the items in the closet

### Clean up!

- Clean all carpets, wash all floors
- Polish / dust all furniture
- Wipe down lighting fixtures, replace any burnt out lightbulbs, pay special attention to ceiling fans
- Wash window treatments
- Remove screens and store in garage or basement
- Wipe down baseboards

### Patch up!

- Patch and paint walls and ceilings, if needed

### The finishing touch!

- Add a plant to side tables
- Add extra pillows to each bed (white pillow cases are universal)

## BASEMENT & GARAGE

### Tidy up!

- Organize all areas; laundry area, workshops, garden equipment, etc.
- Box up and store or dispose of any items you won't be moving with you or don't need on a daily basis.

### Clean up!

- Sweep and clean floors, remove any throw carpets
- Remove cobwebs from walls, window sills and ceilings.
- Wash windows, inside and out.

### Patch up!

- Service furnace, A/C and water heater if needed.

*Congrats on the  
decision to sell your  
home!*

Before each showing, be sure to complete these last minute touches to make your home stand out and look it's best!

### Exterior

- Pickup after pets
- Pickup lawn tools, toys, or anything else laying around the yard.
- Clear driveways and walkways.

### Interior

- Open curtains for daytime showings, close for nighttime showings
- Open windows (weather permitting)
- Do a quick tidy up
- Close toilet seats
- Leave lights on

### Don't's

- Many buyers can be sensitive to scents. Don't spray any air fresheners or use plug-ins.
- Stress, if it's not perfect, just do your best.

