

# Preparing Your Home to List

## DECLUTTERING CHECKLIST

### ENTRYWAY

- Remove excess shoes, coats, and hats.
- Clear away any mail or flyers.
- Organize the coat closet, if applicable, so it appears spacious.

### KITCHEN

- Minimize decorations on shelves and mantels.
- Store away family photos and personalized items.
- Keep only a few, neutral decor items to enhance the space without personalizing it.
- Arrange furniture to maximize open space and flow.

### BEDROOMS

- Ensure closets are tidy and not overly stuffed; use matching hangers for a uniform look.
- Limit personal items on nightstands and dressers.
- Consider neutral bedding and curtains to appeal to more buyers.

### LIVING ROOM

- Minimize decorations on shelves and mantels.
- Store away family photos and personalized items.
- Keep only a few, neutral decor items to enhance the space without personalizing it.
- Arrange furniture to maximize open space and flow.

### DINING ROOM

- Keep the table setting simple, ideally showcasing the space available for entertaining.
- Remove extra chairs and leaves from the dining room table to increase floor space.
- Declutter the buffet or china cabinet to display a select few items neatly.

### BATHROOMS

- Clear out all personal items from countertops.
- Store toiletries out of sight, leaving only a neatly arranged set of hand soap and perhaps a plant.
- Keep only clean, matching towels on display.
- Organize cabinets and drawers to appear orderly and spacious.

## HOME OFFICE

- Organize cabinets and drawers to appear orderly and spacious.
- Keep desk surfaces clean and equipment organized.
- Hide away wires and cables as much as possible.

## BASEMENT/ATTIC

- Clear any old boxes and unused items.
- Organize remaining items neatly into labeled boxes.
- Ensure the area is accessible and well-lit, which can make these often overlooked spaces a selling point.

## FINAL TOUCHES

- Air Out the Home:** Open windows to bring fresh air in and dispel any stale or musty odors.
- Deep Clean:** After decluttering, do a deep clean or hire professional cleaners to make your home sparkle.
- Final Walkthrough:** Walk through your home with the mindset of a buyer. Adjust any areas that seem cluttered or cramped.

## GARAGE

- Dispose of unused chemicals properly.
- Organize tools and equipment into clearly defined areas or bins.
- Sweep floors and remove cobwebs to make the space look cared for and flow.

## OUTDOORS

- Trim bushes, mow the lawn, and remove any yard debris.
- Clean the gutters and wash the windows.
- If applicable, tidy up the shed or other outdoor storage areas.

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## Realtor Tip

Portable storage containers are a great option for packing up items you don't immediately need; they can be easily moved to your new home or stored elsewhere, keeping your house clutter-free and ready for showings.



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