

## Making an Offer

Once you have found the home you wish to purchase, you will need to determine what offer you are willing to make. It is important to remember that the more competition there is for the home, the higher the offer should be – sometimes even exceeding the asking price. Remember, be realistic. Make offers you want the other party to sign!

To communicate your interest in purchasing a home, we will present the listing agent with a written offer. When the seller accepts an offer, it becomes a legal contract. When you write an offer, you should be prepared to pay an earnest money deposit. This is to guarantee that your intention is to purchase the property.

After we present your offer to the listing agent, it will either be accepted, rejected, or the seller will make a counter-offer. This is when we will negotiate terms of the contract if necessary.

The step-by-step contract procedure for most single-family home purchases is standard. The purchase agreement used is a standard document approved by our local real estate board and the Texas Real Estate Commission.

The purchase agreement or contract constitutes your offer to buy and once accepted by the seller, becomes a valid, legal contract. For this reason, it is important to understand what is written on the contract offer.