



## Planning ahead

- ✓ *Walk through each room and consider the home from a buyer's perspective.*
- ✓ *Consider getting a professional home inspection to see if any repairs are needed.*

## Clean, Declutter, and Depersonalize

- ✓ *Thoroughly clean the entire home.*
- ✓ *Steam clean carpets and drapes. Consider replacing carpet if stains are prominent.*
- ✓ *Paint interior walls with neutral colors, like beige, cream or light pastels.*
- ✓ *Remove excess and oversized furniture.*
- ✓ *Rearrange furniture to maximize space.*
- ✓ *Organize room closets and store out-of-season clothes.*
- ✓ *Remove all small appliances, toys, magazines and pet items that are not used daily*
- ✓ *Remove family photos, personal collections and medications.*
- ✓ *Remove items from the garage and store them off site.*
- ✓ *Secure valuable items, including cash and jewelry.*

## Maximize Curb Appeal

- ✓ *Paint the home's exterior, including trim, doors and shutters.*
- ✓ *Check front door, doorbell, address number and welcome mat.*
- ✓ *Power wash the siding and windows.*
- ✓ *Sweep the entryway and walkways.*
- ✓ *Mow, water and fertilize the lawn.*
- ✓ *Trim shrubs and trees and rake the leaves.*
- ✓ *Plant colorful flowers and shrubs.*
- ✓ *Clean up pet droppings.*
- ✓ *Clean the gutters and downspouts.*

## Pay Attention to Kitchens and Bathrooms

- ✓ *Clear the countertops.*
- ✓ *Replace outdated hardware.*
- ✓ *Clean appliances and fixtures.*
- ✓ *Clean and organize the pantry, cabinets and drawers.*
- ✓ *Replace old caulking around sinks and bathtubs.*
- ✓ *Remove stains from sinks, toilets and bathtubs.*
- ✓ *Keep all toilet seat lids closed.*
- ✓ *Hang fresh towels.*

## Appeal to the Senses

- ✓ *Bake cookies or burn lightly scented candles.*
- ✓ *Install higher wattage incandescent light bulbs to brighten rooms.*
- ✓ *Turn on all the lights.*
- ✓ *Open windows to let in fresh air.*
- ✓ *Open curtains or blinds to let in natural light and show off views.*
- ✓ *Turn off TVs.*
- ✓ *Relocate pets for showings.*
- ✓ *Refrain from smoking in the home.*

## Show Off Your Home's Best Features

- ✓ *Remove rugs to show off hardwood floors.*
- ✓ *Pull back drapes to showcase nice views.*
- ✓ *Stage the front porch or deck with furniture and potted plants.*
- ✓ *Make sure fireplaces are in working condition.*
- ✓ *Clean the backyard*