# Preparing Your Home for the Market

# CURB APPEAL

- Mow the lawn, trim bushes, and edge walkways.
- Power wash the exterior, driveway, and sidewalks.
- Repaint or touch up the front door and shutters.
- Add potted plants, flowers, or a fresh welcome mat to the entryway.
- Ensure all outdoor lights are functioning and clean.

## **DECLUTTERING & CLEANING**

- Declutter every room, removing personal items and excess furniture.
- Deep clean carpets, windows, and surfaces throughout the home.
- Organize closets and storage areas to showcase space.
- Remove pet items, odors, and signs of pets where possible.

### **REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE**

- Fix minor issues such as leaky faucets, squeaky doors, or chipped paint.
- Replace burnt-out lightbulbs and ensure all fixtures work properly.
- Address any HVAC, plumbing, or electrical issues.
- Repair damaged flooring, walls, or countertops.

### **NEUTRALIZE & STAGE**

- Repaint walls in neutral, light tones to appeal to more buyers.
- Rearrange furniture to highlight the room's size and functionality.
- Add fresh flowers or greenery for a welcoming touch.
- Remove family photos and personal decor to help buyers envision themselves in the home.



#### LISTING PREP CHECKLIST

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### **ENHANCE KITCHEN & BATHROOMS**

- Clear counters and store small appliances out of sight.
- Add new towels, soap dispensers, and other simple decor for a fresh look.
- Clean grout, polish fixtures, and ensure everything sparkles.
- Remove any expired food or clutter from the pantry and fridge.

### PHOTOGRAPHY & MARKETING PREP

- Remove seasonal decor to ensure timeless appeal in photos.
- Stage outdoor spaces (e.g., clean patio furniture, add cushions).
- Ensure all blinds and curtains are uniform and visually pleasing in photos.

### SAFETY & ACCESSIBILITY

- Ensure all smoke and carbon monoxide detectors are functional.
- Provide clear access to attics, basements, and utility areas for inspections.
- If applicable, ensure pool safety features (e.g., gates, covers) are in place.
- Provide a list of recent upgrades or maintenance to share with potential buyers.

## **FINAL TOUCHES**

- Open curtains or blinds to let in natural light.
- Adjust the thermostat for a comfortable showing temperature.
- Secure valuables and sensitive information.
- Ensure your home smells inviting—light a candle or use a subtle air freshener.